

B o d e g a  
POESIA



A.O.C.	Lujan de Cuyo ? Mendoza, Argentina
Bodega Poesia	12 000 bottles
Surface of production	13 ha planted in 1935 without rootstocks
Soil	Sand and Clay
Subsoil	Gravels
Grape varieties	60% Malbec - 40% Cabernet Sauvignon
Soil culture	Organic and sustainable
Harvest	Stainless steel and oak vats
Fermenting vats	100% new french oak barrels
Barrels & Ageing	18-24 months

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

June 2017

Refined and pretty with blackberries and blueberries. Medium body and a fresh finish. Drink now.

92



Stephen Tanzer

Medium ruby-red. Aromas of cassis, blackberry, boysenberry, licorice, fresh herbs and menthol. In a distinctly more medicinal style than the winery's 2013s, consistent with the cooler 2014 vintage. Plenty of acidity here, but it's not yet in harmony with the wine's fruit. Finishes quite firm, with dark berry, licorice and herb notes but not the length or class of the superb 2013 release. But this needs time.

91



Luis Gutiérrez

The top-of-the-range 2014 Poesía is a blend of 60% ungrafted Malbec with 40% Cabernet Sauvignon from 13 hectares of vines planted 83 years ago at some 900 meters in altitude in Luján de Cuyo. It fermented in French oak and stainless steel vats with indigenous yeasts and long macerations. It matured in new French oak barriques for 28 months before being bottled. This is a selection of different lots that were aged separately in barrels, with the best barrels selected to create this top cuvée. There was only one year when they co-fermented the two varieties, but in general they keep them separate. In reality, they prefer to separate the varieties so that later they can make selections. This is super elegant, sleek and polished, quite different from the idea most people tend to have about a red from Luján. The two varieties are very integrated, and the wine feels superbly balanced. The tannins are super elegant, harmonious and nuanced, clean, focused and long. This should age very nicely in bottle. 11,000 bottles produced.

94

Blackberries, blueberries and wet earth. Medium body, firm and silky tannins and a complete finish. Excellent all the way.

94

Antonio Galloni  
**vinous**  
 explore all things wine

Stephen Tanzer

Full, bright medium ruby. Musky, reticent scents of black raspberry, kirsch, menthol, medicinal herbs, mocha and licorice pastille. Very suave, fine-grained but backward wine with a medicinal reserve to its dense dark berry, dark chocolate and licorice pastille flavors, lifted by herbs, spices and flowers. Wonderfully savory, penetrating wine with suave tannins and sneaky rising length. A superb vintage for this very distinctive bottling.

93

*Robert Parker*  
 WINE ADVOCATE

Luis Gutiérrez

The 2013 Poesía is a blend of Malbec with 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, the percentage of varieties found in the vineyard, from 13 hectares of ungrafted vines planted 85 years ago at some 900 meters altitude. It fermented in a combination of oak and stainless steel tanks with indigenous yeasts and extended maceration. It matured in new French oak barriques for two years before being bottled. I think this is the most beautiful wine I've tasted from Poesía, still a very young and undeveloped wine with subtle aromas of violets and fine spices, still young and lively, but subtle and elegant, nuanced and insinuating. It developed some more balsamic nuances, with hints of camphor. But, it's the palate where the wine shows its true colors, classically proportioned, elegant, balanced, with symmetry and a fine texture. The two varieties are nicely integrated; they believe in blends, which for them is the best way to achieve complexity. I'd love to see this wine in ten years, as I believe it will age beautifully. It can be drunk now, but it should improve in bottle.

94

Black truffles, mushrooms, stones, bark and blackberries on the nose follow through to a full body and a silky and fine-grained texture.

93

Antonio Galloni  
**vinous**  
 explore all things wine

Stephen Tanzer

Bright red-ruby. Musky, claret-like aromas of redcurrant, mocha, licorice and crushed herbs, plus a whiff of tobacco leaf. Fine-grained and round but with lovely herbal lift giving definition to the classically dry currant and mocha flavors. Subtle soil salinity contributes complexity without impinging on the fruit. Ripe, fine-grained wine with very smooth tannins and sneaky persistence. No rough edges here.

92

*Robert Parker*  
 WINE ADVOCATE

Luis Gutiérrez

The 2012 Poesía, which follows more or less the same formula vintage after vintage, is a 60/40 blend of old-vine ungrafted Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon which matured in new French oak barrels for two years after fermenting in a combination of stainless-steel and oak vats with indigenous yeasts. The really showy nose is redolent of violets and red cherries, really expressive, with a smoky hint, also a little meaty. The palate is medium-bodied with a soft texture and polished tannins with some earthiness (is it the Cabernet?) and moderate acidity. They do not acidify and the wines show the vintages and the place. This is a very nice blend. I had a preview of the 2013 and 2014 vintages, still unbottled, and I really liked 2013 too. 2014 it's still very young, but very balanced. Even though this 2012 is approachable now, I'd give it one more year in bottle, and it should also be able to age for quite long. I compare this 2012 to 2010, 2008 and 2004, vintages that are evolving nicely. It's quite remarkable that the wine has aged in new barrels and the oak is not noticeable at all. Also the two varietals are very integrated. It's always interesting to taste two vintages of the top wine from a winery side by side.

93

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Fresh and aromatic with orange peel and black cherries. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish.

90

Antonio Galloni  
**vinous**  
explore all things wine

Stephen Tanzer

Healthy dark red. Musky, soil-inflected aromas of redcurrant, mocha, chocolate mint, iron, menthol and wild herbs. Plush, fine-grained and deep, conveying an intriguing saline quality to its red berry and spice flavors. In a distinctly elegant style, showing subtle intensity, lovely definition and a light touch. Finishes with broad, fine-grained tannins and sneaky length, with late hints of strawberry and cinders. Can't match the best Poesia vintages for depth or sweetness but this wine should evolve gracefully in bottle and may eventually merit an even higher rating.

91+

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

Luis Gutiérrez

These wines show the place and the vintage without any tricks. There is no residual sugar, they are dry and serious and show elegance and power. 2011 benefits from a cooler vintage

92

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Lots of blackberry and black-cherry aromas follow through to a medium body and firm and silky tannins. Drink or hold.

93



Stephen Tanzer

Bright, dark red. Inviting, subtly complex aromas of black raspberry, mocha and espresso, with a building floral element. Offers lovely ripeness of fruit without any roasted character, with dark berry flavors complicated by medicinal herbs, spices and high-quality smoky oak. Finishes with noble, even tannins and terrific persistence. Very young but already superb, this wonderfully elegant wine is about much more than simply fruit.

93+



WINE ADVOCATE

Jay Miller  
Dec. 2011

A Dry red Table wine from Mendoza, ArgentinaThe 2010 POESIA, tasted from a barrel sample, displays a similar aromatic and flavor profile. Ripe, succulent, and impeccably balanced, it will offer a drinking window extending from 2017 to 2030+.

93-96

Neal Martin

The 2010 Poesia has a strict linear bouquet with dark berries, briary, wild hedgerow and crushed stone. It is tightly wound but already displays great delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with a crisp, supple entry. There is great purity here, very fine balance and perhaps overall, it will be a more feminine, refined Poesia than the previous vintage. This offers great potential. Drink 2014-2020+.

93

Jay S Miller

The 2010 Poesia, tasted from a barrel sample, displays a similar aromatic and flavor profile. Ripe, succulent, and impeccably balanced, it will offer a drinking window extending from 2017 to 2030+.

93-96

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Linear and fruity with stone and berry character, a medium body and a fresh and clean finish.

92



Stephen Tanzer

Good full red-ruby. Aromas of black raspberry, earth and mint are sexed up by new French oak notes of coffee, mocha and cedar. The palate offers a sophisticated combination of rich, lush texture and restrained sweetness, with the raspberry, currant and licorice flavors lifted by enticing mineral/floral perfume. This gripping, vibrant, classy wine finishes with smooth tannins that dust the entire mouth.

93



WINE ADVOCATE

Jay Miller  
Dec. 2011

A Dry red Table wine from Mendoza, ArgentinaThe 2009 POESIA offers up a sexy perfume of pain grille, mineral, exotic spices, lavender, black cherry, and blackberry. This sets the stage for a plush, incipiently complex, beautifully proportioned wine with 5-6 years or more of aging potential. It will provide prime drinking from 2016 to 2029.

95

Neal Martin

The 2009 Poesia is reticent on the nose at the moment, with broody fruit that seems more red than black. There is a lovely purity here, as scents of raspberry and wild strawberry tinged with singed leather begin to emerge. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins and lovely, ripe, succulent red berry fruit as well as a lovely creamy, coconut-tinged, oaky note that will need two or three years to be subsumed. Excellent. Drink 2014-2020+.

92

Jay S Miller

The 2009 Poesia offers up a sexy perfume of pain grille, mineral, exotic spices, lavender, black cherry, and blackberry. This sets the stage for a plush, incipiently complex, beautifully proportioned wine with 5-6 years or more of aging potential. It will provide prime drinking from 2016 to 2029.

95

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

I like the chalk and stone character of this with black fruits. Medium body and firm tannins.

93



Stephen Tanzer

The 2008 still boasts a deep, bright ruby-red color and its pure, vibrant aromas of black cherry, black raspberry, cocoa powder, graphite and woodsmoke are enlivened by a subtle floral note. It's not the most opulent release of Poesia to date, as 2008 was generally a vintage of moderate ripeness for red grapes in Mendoza, but it may be the most suave and best balanced. On the palate, dark fruit flavors are accented by minerals, licorice, fresh herbs and flowers, while the finish features a fine dusting of tannins and echoing juicy length. I was reminded of both Right Bank Bordeaux and youngish Bandol, but with much more pliant tannins than those often fierce Mourvèdre wines.

94



WINE ADVOCATE

Jay S Miller

The 2008 Poesia (the Bodega's flagship) is sourced from a single 28.6 acre vineyard planted in 1935 to 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. It was aged for 18 months in 100% new French oak. A glass-coating opaque purple color, it reveals an outstanding bouquet of toasty new oak, exotic spices, incense, espresso, dark chocolate, and assorted black fruits. On the palate it displays an elegant personality in a slightly restrained style. The balance and flavors are first class and there is enough structure for 4-6 years of cellaring. Its drinking window extends from 2014 to 2028.

92

M. Parker, Jr. Hedonist's

Went to a vertical tasting of Poesia, the Argentine blend of mostly Malbec with some Cabernet Sauvignon from Patrice and Hélène Garcin, the prominent Bordelais château owners-Barde Haut, Clos L'Eglise, Haut Bergey, and Branon... the first vintage was 2002. They were all impressive, but the current release, the 2008, is very stunning. The wine is not cheap \$60-70, but something from Napa or Bordeaux this fine would be in excess of \$100. The telltale floral notes, lots of licorice, espresso and blackberry and blueberry fruit... certainly full-bodied with very sweet well-integrated tannin... what like is the window for drinking this is very broad... already complex and delicious, this wine should last 10-20+ years... Big Jay scored it in the low 90s... I am much higher on it than that... but than again I am very bullish on these old vine, low yielding Malbec vines from top terroirs in Argentina... give it a try and let me know what you think!

96



Blackberries, blueberries and bark on the nose follow through to a full body, juicy fruit and a long and flavorful finish. Fine tannins. Drink now.

92



Stephen Tanzer

Good dark red. Tight, pure nose offers currant, blackberry, spicecake, licorice and minerals, with an overlay of sexy oak. Broad, lush and suave, with a fine-grained texture, strong minerality and beautifully integrated acidity giving this very concentrated wine an almost magical lightness. Spreads out horizontally on the back end, finishing with refined tannins and subtle hints of flowers and woodsmoke. This seamless, impeccably balanced wine is built to last.

93



WINE ADVOCATE

Jay Miller  
Dec. 2008

A barrel sample of the 2007 POESIA shows a more *élégant* style in this slightly more difficult vintage in which time of picking was crucial. When bottled, it will certainly merit an outstanding rating.

91-94

Jay Miller  
Aug. 2009

A proprietary Blend Dry red Table wine from Mendoza, ArgentinaThe purple-colored 2007 POESIA, sourced from an 80-year-old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo, was barrel fermented and aged sur lies for 21 months in new French oak. It is a blend of 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. It displays a brooding nose of smoky new oak, mineral, damp earth, black currant, black cherry, and plum. This leads to a plush, opulent wine with succulent flavors and a firm underlying structure. Notes of espresso and chocolate emerge on the palate to complement the wine's superb grip, focus, and 60-second finish. Drink this superb effort from 2013 to 2022.

93

Neal Martin

The 2007 Poesia has a more pastille-like bouquet with vivacious small dark cherries, blueberry and a touch of boysenberry that exudes more minerality than previous vintages. The palate is medium-bodied and very elegant, underpinned by fine, slightly chalky tannins and a keen thread of acidity on the finish that is very natural and refined. There are hints of dark cherry, black tea and sea salt lingering on the aftertaste. This is drinking beautifully now. Drink now-2019+.

93

Jay S Miller  
Aug 2009

The purple-colored 2007 Poesia, sourced from an 80-year-old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo, was barrel fermented and aged sur lies for 21 months in new French oak. It is a blend of 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. It displays a brooding nose of smoky new oak, mineral, damp earth, black currant, black cherry, and plum. This leads to a plush, opulent wine with succulent flavors and a firm underlying structure. Notes of espresso and chocolate emerge on the palate to complement the wine's superb grip, focus, and 60-second finish.

93

## THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

Stephen Tanzer  
Feb. 2010

Good dark red. Tight, pure nose offers currant, blackberry, spicecake, licorice and minerals, with an overlay of sexy oak. Broad, lush and suave, with a fine-grained texture, strong minerality and beautifully integrated acidity giving this very concentrated wine an almost magical lightness. Spreads out horizontally on the back end, finishing with refined tannins and subtle hints of flowers and woodsmoke. This seamless, impeccably balanced wine is built to last. delivers an outstanding combination of French savoir-faire and Argentine fruit, and shows little sign of its 14.5% alcohol.

93

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Subtle aromas of chocolate, sultanas and berries. Full-bodied, chewy and straightforward.

90

Antonio Galloni  
**vinous**  
explore all things wine

Stephen Tanzer

Medium ruby-red. Musky currant, tobacco and minerals on the nose, lifted by a floral nuance. Suave on entry, then firm and rich in the middle, with complex flavors of currant, menthol, licorice, bitter chocolate and spicecake. There's a chocolatey quality here but nothing porty or nutty. Finishes with excellent breadth and very good tannic spine. This initially came across as less pliant and deep than the 2005 version, but it's very young today and built to reward cellaring.

92+

"It is difficult to exaggerate how much Argentine wines have changed in the past few years. Until recently a typical Argentine wine was a full-throttle red of almost monstrous proportions, but a recent tasting of almost 100 of the country's finer wines suggested that many of the most ambitious winemakers are consciously seeking more finesse in their wines. The key to this has been a noticeable trend to planting vines ever higher up in the Andean foothills, and further and further south, away from the equator. In the south of the country, Argentine Patagonia with its subregion, Rio Negro, is now a serious wine producer in its own right. And a significant proportion of Argentine vineyards are now at more than 1.000m above sea level (in Europe's much feebler sunshine, 500m is popularly regarded as an effective upper limit for successful grape ripening). For what it's worth, I gave that particularly emblematic wine 17 points out of 20 but I ended up giving 17.5 out of 20 to all 16 wines, and a score of 18 out of 20 - which for me is a very high score indeed - to seven wines, those in the box below. A significant proportion of the fruit that went into these wines was grown on vines that are at least 50 years old, and therefore capable of producing extremely concentrated, interesting juice. But as the vines in the newer, cooler wine regions mature, they are expected to produce even finer wine than the old timers in the traditional warmer regions' lower altitudes. With the sole exception of Nicolas Catena Zapata, which is based on Cabernet Sauvignon, all of my 18 pointers happen to be Malbecs, but of course Argentina is not just Malbec. Indeed it is not just red wine. It has its own headily perfumed white wine grape Torrontes, a descendant of Muscat, which in its finest incarnations such as Colome Torrontes 2007 Salta, would make a great-value substitute for a smart Condrieu from the northern Rhône Valley. Then there is Argentine Chardonnay, which can be uncannily fine. California winemaker Paul Hobbs, whose own American Chardonnays fetch impressive prices, is an old Argentina hand, and argues that although the precise origins of Argentina's Chardonnay cuttings remain obscure, it is the stoniness of the soils in its most successful sites that imbue it with real class. His ex-employer Nicolas Catena maintains that altitude is the key to Chardonnay quality in Argentina. There is still much to be discovered in South America's dominant wine-producing country - which is presumably part of its charm for all those French, Spanish, Italian and Austrian wine producers who have moved there. Head of the generic body, Susana Balbo of Dominio del Plata winery, worries about those winery owners who leave the business altogether after less than five years. "Part of the reason is that their business plan was flawed in the first place, but also we find that they were making the wrong style of wine," she says. Too much extraction, wines that are too rustic. Argentina's growth is in mid-priced wines with real balance."

Jancis Robinson	Scented and quite correct and 'straight backed '. Serious structure. And more Bordeaux than previous vintages with such richness.	<b>18</b>
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WINE ADVOCATE

Jay Miller  
Dec. 2008

The purple-colored 2006 POESIA, sourced from an 80-year-old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo, was barrel fermented and aged for 18 months in new French oak. It is a blend of 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. It exhibits a brooding nose of smoky new oak, mineral, damp earth, black currant, black cherry, and blackberry followed by a plush, nearly opulent wine with great depth of fruit, complex flavors with notes of espresso and chocolate emerging on the palate, superb grip, and 5-7 years of aging potential. Drink this superb effort from 2013 to 2030.

**94**

Neal Martin  
Oct 2012

The 2006 Poesia has a more open nose than the 2005, with a crisp blackberry, raspberry leaf, mulberry and crushed violets-scented bouquet that gathers momentum with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied, with an exuberant dark plum-driven entry matched by crisp acidity and a firm, but not intrusive, structure on the focused finish. This is maturing superbly.

**92**

Jay S Miller

The purple-colored 2006 Poesia, sourced from an 80-year-old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo, was barrel fermented and aged for 18 months in new French oak. It is a blend of 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. It exhibits a brooding nose of smoky new oak, mineral, damp earth, black currant, black cherry, and blackberry followed by a plush, nearly opulent wine with great depth of fruit, complex flavors with notes of espresso and chocolate emerging on the palate, superb grip, and 5-7 years of aging potential. Drink this superb effort from 2013 to 2030.

**94**

JEAN-MARC UARIN

Très belle couleur rouge sombre. Nez moyennement aromatique, fruité, fin (voilà l'extraordinaire pour cette région). Bouche suave, très fruitée et élégante, avec un beau milieu. Très belle finale tramée et subtile avec des saveurs complexes. Ce vin trouble les pistes tant il est bien élaboré et offre un raffinement de structure que l'on trouve plutôt sous des climats septentrionaux. On peut le goûter jeune et avant 2025.

**16,5  
(92)**

# THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

Stephen Tanzer  
Feb. 2009

Medium ruby-red. Musky currant, tobacco and minerals on the nose, lifted by a floral nuance. Suave on entry, then firm and rich in the middle, with complex flavors of currant, menthol, licorice, bitter chocolate and spicecake. There's a chocolatey quality here but nothing porty or nutty. Finishes with excellent breadth and very good tannic spine. This initially came across as less pliant and deep than the 2005 version, but it's very young today and built to reward cellaring.

92

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Aromas of dark chocolate, plums and nutmeg. Medium to full body and lots of berries. Rich and juicy on the finish. Salty undertones.

93



Stephen Tanzer

Good ruby-red. Vibrant aromas of cassis, licorice, minerals and spicecake. Suave and light on its feet, with an insidious sweetness and excellent definition to the berry, smoke and mineral flavors. Ripe acids give this wine impressive energy and freshness. Builds slowly and inexorably on the back half. Complex and sophisticated wine-the best yet from this estate, and ample evidence of the quality of this old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo.

90-92

Wine Spectator

James Molesworth  
Feb. 2008

Alluring mint and raspberry ganache notes lead the way, followed by fig compote, Port sauce, graphite and Turkish coffee notes. Dark, but stays pure and bright, with acidity running through the finish.

91

James Molesworth

Alluring mint and raspberry ganache notes lead the way, followed by fig compote, Port sauce, graphite and Turkish coffee notes. Dark, but stays pure and bright, with acidity running through the finish. Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2010.

91

Argentine Icons

Julia Harding  
Apr. 2008

"A recent tasting in London of self-professed Argentine 'super reserves' was quite patchy and revealed one of the downsides of a generic representative body such as Wines of Argentina (WoA). The UK arm of the WoA does a great job in promoting Argentine wines but cannot, for political reasons, decide which wines genuinely deserve to be described as 'super reserves'. When I asked how the wines had been selected, I was told that an invitation was sent out to all the members to submit their top icon wine but that it 'got a little lost in translation'. Nevertheless I was delighted to have the chance to taste wines of new WoA members such as Achaval-Ferrer, one of my current favourite producers in Mendoza. The 1977 Weinert Star Malbec was very interesting and seemed to divide tasters between admiration and nose-wrinkling. The tasting was held at the new branch of the Gaucho restaurant group inside the O2 (once 'Millennium') dome by the Thames in east London - a great location but one occasionally prone to wafting aromas of top-notch grilled steak, even if some of the wines did smell independently meaty. The wines are grouped as follows: first pure Malbecs, then Malbec-dominant blends, then other blends, then other varietals. The Chacra Pinot Noirs were excellent - it's just a shame they are pretty expensive. All the wines had been decanted an hour or so before the tasting - with the added benefit that we didn't have to expend too much energy picking up the bottles. Approximate UK retail prices are given where known. Most if not all of these wines are available in the US ([www.wine-searcher.com](http://www.wine-searcher.com) should help), where consumers seem to have been more willing to pay the higher prices that some of these wines deserve. The information in italics about vineyard location and winemaking was supplied by the producers. My drinking dates are generally quite conservative. Although some wines will age for longer, I think most will benefit from earlier drinking to enjoy the quality and purity of the fruit. Did you know? Mendoza has more hectares (156,570) under vine than Bordeaux. The first Aberdeen Angus bull was imported to Argentina in 1879 and was named Virtuoso; he was accompanied by two heifers called Cinderella and Aunty Lee. *MALBeC-DOMINANT BLEND* POESIA 2005 Mendoza 17 Drink 2008-1160% Malbec, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon from Luján de Cuyo; aged in 100% new French oak barrels. Fragrant, gently cedary, peppery and then smoky on the palate. Dry and fresh and persistent. Dry and attractive restraint. 14.5% (JH)"

17

JANCISROBINSON.COM

Jancis Robinson

Complete well melded nose. Hint of charcoal. Interesting! Different layers of flavour to it !

17,5



WINE ENTHUSIAST

2008

Red Blend, MendozaThe youngest of the POESIA line shows some new oak in the form of sawdust aromas and espresso and mocha on the finish. In between those oak-based characteristics are mineral and black-fruit aromas as well as lush, very potent plum and berry flavors. With midnight darkness, firm tannins and straggling wood notes, we suggest sitting this bruiser down for another two to five years.

92



WINE ADVOCATE

Jay Miller  
Dec. 2007

The winery's flagship is called POESIA and is a blend of 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. It too is sourced from an 80 year old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo. The 2005 POESIA was barrel-fermented and aged for 18 months in 100% new French oak. Opaque purple-colored, it has a high-class aromatic array of pain grille, violets, spice box, black cherry, and blueberry. Smooth-textured, ripe, and sweetly-fruited, this elegant wine is beautifully balanced, nicely concealing enough structure to permit 5-7 years of evolution. It should drink well through 2030. A barrel sample of the 2006 was also impressive. Ms. Garcin also presented the 2002 (88), 2003 (90+), and 2004 (91), all fine efforts but the 2005 and 2006 are the best yet.

93

Jay S Miller  
Dec 2007

The 2005 Poesia was barrel-fermented and aged for 18 months in 100% new French oak. Opaque purple-colored, it has a high-class aromatic array of pain grille, violets, spice box, black cherry, and blueberry. Smooth-textured, ripe, and sweetly-fruited, this elegant wine is beautifully balanced, nicely concealing enough structure to permit 5-7 years of evolution. It should drink well through 2030. A barrel sample of the 2006 was also impressive.

93

Neal Martin  
Oct 2012

The 2005 Poesia has a well-defined bouquet, although it does not quite have the vibrancy of the previous vintage: mulberry, sea salt and savory fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with a soft entry, though it fans out nicely with plush licorice and dark chocolate-infused black fruit and dovetails into a harmonious, if slightly simple, graphite-tinged finish.

90

JEAN-MARC UARIN

Belle couleur rouge sombre. Intense. Net. Intense. Fin. Fruité. Crémeux. Mûr. Cassis assez exacerbé et heureusement compensé par le chocolat. Toucher de bouche fin. Le vin rentre en bouche avec douceur et se met à fondre avec grâce. En milieu de bouche, le goût est très cassis et légèrement cacao. Finale douce et longue à la tannicité fondante. C'est très bon.

**16,25**  
**(91)**

## THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

Stephen Tanzer  
Feb. 2008

Good ruby-red. Vibrant aromas of cassis, licorice, minerals and spicecake. Suave and light on its feet, with an insidious sweetness and excellent definition to the berry, smoke and mineral flavors. Ripe acids give this wine impressive energy and freshness. Builds slowly and inexorably on the back half. Complex and sophisticated wine-the best yet from this estate, and ample evidence of the quality of this old vineyard in Lujan de Cuyo.

**92**

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Chocolate, walnuts and spices. Plums, too. Medium body, soft and velvety tannins and a fresh finish. Holding on nicely. Decadent.

91



Stephen Tanzer

Deep ruby. Black raspberry, blackberry, violet and enticing oak tones on the nose. Dense, lush and ripe, with dark berry and bitter chocolate flavors offering compelling sweetness and fat. Offers a combination of lushness and acid spine rare for Argentine wine. Finishes with big but fine tannins and superb breadth and length. This has been racked only twice to this point. Promises to be the best release yet under this label.

90-92

Wine Spectator

James Molesworth  
2008

Good plum and mixed berry fruit along with hints of fruitcake and fig paste. Spice and briar hints fill out the fleshy finish.

89

James Molesworth

Good plum and mixed berry fruit along with hints of fruitcake and fig paste. Spice and briar hints fill out the fleshy finish. Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2009

89

JANCISROBINSON.COM

Jancis Robinson

Lively, punchy nose. Great depth of colour. Very chewy. Quite different from 2003. Much more structure.

17

WINE ENTHUSIAST

Feb. 2008

"Red Blend, Mendoza Having tasted the 2002 through the 2005, the '04 seems bright by comparison, with aromatics that include forest floor, tar and lively berries. The palate, like all the POESIA wines, is mouthfilling and substantial; flavors of black cherry, boysenberry and mocha are knit together and don't skip a beat."

92



Robert Parker  
2006

Robert Parker  
2006

Jay Miller

Dec. 2007

Robert Parker

Jun. 2005

A fine effort but not as good as the 2005 and 2006.

These wines are made by the Argentinean branch of Bordeaux's Garcin family, in particular, Helene Garcin-Levêque. A finished barrel sample of the 2004 POESIA, a 2000-case blend of 70% Malbec and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon (from a vineyard planted in 1935), reveals great potential. Its deep purple color is accompanied by a sumptuous perfume of white chocolate interwoven with blackberries, cassis, spice box, and flowers. With great density, beautiful precision, and a long, medium to full-bodied finish revealing decent acidity as well as impressive purity, it should drink well for 12-14 years. The 2003 POESIA is an elegant, medium-bodied effort displaying similar white chocolate and spice box characteristics, but neither the concentration nor intensity of its younger sibling. Black cherry, currant, licorice, and smoke characteristics emerge from this polished, elegant 2003. Consume it over the next 5-6 years. Made from the usual blend of 70% Malbec and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2002 POESIA offers elegant yet powerful aromas of black fruits, mocha, chocolate, and new oak. In the mouth, it reveals a seamless integration of acidity, wood, and tannin as well as long, medium to full-bodied, heady finish. A good value from POESIA is their second label, the 2003 CLOS DES ANDES, which often sells for under \$17 a bottle. The most recent vintage is a deep ruby/purple-colored effort revealing much the character of its bigger siblings, without the density and aging potential. Various American importers.

**92-94**

**92-94**

**91**

**92-94**

Neal Martin

Moving on to the flagship wine, I tasted all vintages from 2004, although they are still distributing the 2007 in the United States. The 2004 Poesia, 60% Malbec and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, remains fresh and vital on the nose with dark cherries, mulberry, dark plum and a touch of balsamic. The palate is full-bodied with rounded, loosely knit mulberry fruit interlaced with white pepper, garrigue and cooked meat. It is nicely balanced, though it is missing just a little precision towards the finish. Drink now-2017.

**90**

Jay S Miller

A fine effort but not as good as the 2005 and 2006. Recommended but no tasting note given.

91

Robert M. Parker, Jr.

A finished barrel sample of the 2004 Poesia, a 2,000-case blend of 70% Malbec and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon (from a vineyard planted in 1935), reveals great potential. Its deep purple color is accompanied by a sumptuous perfume of white chocolate interwoven with blackberries, cassis, spice box, and flowers. With great density, beautiful precision, and a long, medium to full-bodied finish revealing decent acidity as well as impressive purity, it should drink well for 12-14 years.

92-94

JEAN-MARC UARIN

Jean-Marc Quarin  
Jul. 2005

Je viens de vivre cette expérience en rencontrant Hélène Garcin et son mari Patrice Lévêque dans leur chai de CLOS L'EGLISE à Pomerol. Quatre crus sur la table - une même volonté de les vinifier parfaitement - quatre lieux différents - trois à Bordeaux (Pessac-Leognan, Saint-emilion, Pomerol), un en Argentine. Aucune défaillance - que de la qualité. Aucune ressemblance - que des expressions particulières réunies. Ici, le buveur n'aura pas la malchance de confondre ce qu'il aime avec ce qui n'est pas " bien fait. Parmi le meilleur, choisissez tout simplement selon votre goût. Imaginez-vous en train de choisir dans le même niveau de gamme entre BMW, Mercedes et Audi."

16,5 -  
16,75

Jean-Marc Quarin  
Jul. 2005

"After the airing of the movie ""Mondovino"", many people started to confuse regularity of quality with standardized taste. I had indicated in one of my chronics that the ultimate search for quality in wine aims at obtaining a specific and perfectly unique expression of taste and smell in each individual wine. I recently witnessed the result of this kind of search when I met Helene Garcin and her husband Patrice Levêque in their cellar at CLOS L'EGLISE in Pomerol. Four different growths were present on the table ; one determination for the perfect vinification, but four different locations, of which three in Bordeaux area (Pessac-Leognan, Saint emilion, Pomerol) and one in Argentina. No failure anywhere ; only high quality. No similarities - only highly successful, unique, specific expressions. Here, the consumer cannot possibly confuse his personal preferences with a badly made wine. He chooses according to his personal taste, but only among the best of wines. Can you imagine choosing between an upper range BMW, Mercedes or Audi ? "

91

Belle couleur rouge sombre. Intense. Net. Intense. Fin. Fruité. Crémeux. Mûr. Cassis assez exacerbé et heureusement compensé par le chocolat. Toucher de bouche fin. Le vin rentre en bouche avec douceur et se met à fondre avec grâce. En milieu de bouche, le goût est très cassis et légèrement cacao. Finale douce et longue à la tannicité fondante. C'est très bon.

**16,75**  
**(93)**

## THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

Stephen Tanzer  
Dec. 2005

Deep ruby. Black raspberry, blackberry, violet and enticing oak tones on the nose. dense, lush and ripe, with dark berry and bitter chocolate flavors offering compelling sweetness and fat. Offers a combination of lushness and acid spine rare for Argentine wine. Finishes with big but fine tannins and superb breadth and length. This has been racked only twice to this point. promises to be the best release yet under this label.

**90-92**

Stephen Tanzer  
Feb. 2008

"Full red-ruby. Brooding aromas of smoky dark fruits, menthol and chocolate; lower-toned than the 2005. Tightly wound and less pliant than the '05, with a more obviously herbaceous character contributing to an impression of rigidity. Shows the firm acidity of a barrel sample I tasted at the winery in September of 2005, but seems less pliant in the bottle. The dusty tannins are a tad dry."

**89**

**JAMESSUCKLING.COM**

solid and linear wine with blueberry, blackberry and chalk character. Full to medium body, silky tannins and a citrusy finish. Balance and finesse here.

**91-92**



Stephen Tanzer

Ruby-red. Blackberry liqueur, black cherry, licorice, minerals and oaky torrefaction on the nose. Dense, sappy and clean; a big, powerful, dry wine with superripe black fruit and bitter chocolate flavors. Doesn't quite have the briskness of the 2002, but there's more mid-palate ripeness to support the solid tannic structure and the finish is sweeter. This may merit an even higher rating with three to five years of additional bottle aging.

**90+**

**Wine Spectator**

James Molesworth

Ebullient blackberry and boysenberry fruit is very vivid and vibrant thanks to racy acidity. High-pitched floral backdrop adds range. Distinctive.

**90-93**

JANCISROBINSON.COM

Jancis Robinson

Slightly dull on the nose-suppressed. A bit bloody and soft. Fully ripe and ready.

**16**

WEINWISSER

Jun. 2004

Tiefes, dunkles Weinrot, violette reflexe. Dichtes, feines Fruchtbouquet, Waldbeerennoten, ein Hauch Cassis. Dichter, feinstoffiger Gaument, Spiel zwischen roten und blauen Beeren, noch fein körnige textur, ausgeglichene Adstringenz, gutes Potenzial.

**17**

WINE ENTHUSIAST

Feb. 2008 | Red Blend, Mendoza Winemakers Helene Garcin and Patrice Levêque have coaxed a ton of character from 70-year-old Malbec and Cabernet vines, and the result is juicy but dark, with asphalt and tar aromas sitting in front of tight but generous black fruit (cassis and blackberry). Finishing notes of coffee, mocha and char leave you happy.

**93**



Robert Parker  
2006  
Robert Parker  
2006  
Jay Miller  
Dec. 2007

A fine effort but not as good as the 2005 and 2006.

**90**

**90**


**90**

Robert Parker  
Jun. 2005

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**90**



Robert M. Parker, Jr.	The 2003 Poesia is an elegant, medium-bodied effort displaying similar white chocolate and spice box characteristics, but neither the concentration nor intensity of its younger sibling. Black cherry, currant, licorice, and smoke characteristics emerge from this polished, elegant 2003. Consume it over the next 5-6 years.	<b>90</b>
Jay S Miller	A fine effort but not as good as the 2005 and 2006. Recommended but no tasting note given.	<b>90</b>
<p><b>JEAN-MARC UARIN</b></p>		
Jean-Marc Quarin Jul. 2005	Goûté quatre fois depuis sa naissance, j'ai toujours considéré que ce vin évoquait le sud plus que le 2002. Certes son nez n'est ni cuit, ni oxydatif, ni sur-mûr, mais il sent une note balsamique de résine. Touches de chocolat et cerise. La bouche est sapide et fondante. Le vin est même gracieux au milieu et s'achevé sur des notes de fruit cacaotées avec encore une note résineuse. Toutefois, le tanin est fin et il n'y a aucune surcharge liée à l'alcool. Je l'avais encore mieux goûté avant la mise en bouteille.	<b>16,25-16,5</b>
Jean-Marc Quarin Jul. 2005	Tasted four times since its birth, I always said that his wine was more southern than vintage 2002. Though the nose is neither cooked nor oxidative nor over-ripe, it has a balsamic touch of resin. It also presents notes of chocolate and cherry. The palate is sapid and melting. In mid-palate, the wine even becomes elegant and it ends with a touch of fruit and cocoa, with still a hint of resin. However, the tannins are delicate, and there is no heaviness due to the alcohol. And I found it even better just before bottling.	<b>90</b>
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James Molesworth Oct. 2004	A powerful wine in a rich, modern style. Lots of cocoa, coffee and toast cover lush plum, black currane, cassis and loam notes.	<b>92</b>
James Molesworth Nov. 2004	Rich, modern style, with lots of cocoa, coffee and toast covering lush plum, black current, cassis and loam notes.	<b>92</b>
James Molesworth Jul. 2004	Rich, modern style, with lots of cocoa, coffee and toast covering lush plum, black currant, cassis and loam notes. Thick, ripe tannins take over on the finish. Wins on power now, should gain some finesse with cellaring. Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2005 through 2009.	<b>92</b>
James Molesworth Sept 2004	Rich, modern style, with lots of cocoa, coffee and toast covering lush plum, black currant, cassis and loam notes. Thick, ripe tannins take over on the finish. Wins on power now, should gain some finesse with cellaring.	<b>92</b>
WEINWISSER		
Jun. 2004	Dunkles, sattes Granat. Wuchtiges Bouquet, feine Ledernoten, Irish Moos, Lakritze, sch?ne W,rze, reife Pflaumen. Feines Granat, fleischige textur, Rasse zeigend, reife Frucht, sch?ne terroiranzeige.	<b>17</b>
WINE ENTHUSIAST		
Feb. 2008	Red Blend, MendozaGet by the opening notes of leather, bitter root and horseradish and what lies beneath is a top-notch Malbec-Cab Sauvignon blend that shows tons of old-vines boysenberry and cassis character. It's a bit juicy and exacting on the palate, but it's also cleansing and will never be confused for fat ans misguided. A true Argentine high flier, yet the newer vintages ('03, '04, '05) are even better.	<b>90</b>



Robert Parker  
2006

Robert Parker  
2006

Jay Miller  
Dec. 2007

Robert Parker  
Jun. 2005

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91

91

88

91

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91



Jean-Marc Quarin  
Jul. 2005

Goûté cinq fois depuis sa naissance avec une note moyenne à 16, j'ai toujours beaucoup apprécié son style général sans lourdeur, élégant, son nez frais, fruité, sa texture raffinée, son profil élancé. On sent une interprétation bordelaise, m'me si le goût du raisin est différent.

16



Jean-Marc Quarin  
Jul. 2005

I always appreciated its general style, elegant without heaviness, with a fresh and fruity nose, a refined texture and an elongated shape. You can feel a Bordeaux interpretation of the wine, even though the grapes taste very different.

89

## THE WINE CELLAR INSIDER

Stephen Tanzer  
Aug. 2004

Expressive aromas of raspberry, roasted currant, leather, licorice and stone. Superripe, densely packed and highly concentrated, with strong black raspberry and mineral flavors. Sweet and showy but not at all heavy or over the top. Finishes with building but thoroughly ripe tannins and excellent length and freshness. This modern-style Argentine wine is the project of Helene Garcin-Leveque and her husband Patrice Leveque, the team responsible for managing and making Haut-Bergey and Branon in Graves, BARDE-HAUT in Saint-emilion and CLOS L'EGLISE in Pomerol. According to Garcin-Leveque, the crop level in 2003 was just 18 hectoliters per hectare. My early look at a barrel sample of the 2003 suggested that the new vintage will be equally impressive.

90

# MILLESIME 2001

JEAN-MARC UARIN

Jean-Marc Quarin  
Jul. 2005

Goûtée trois fois depuis sa naissance avec une note moyenne à 15,75, 2001 est un plus petit millésime que 2002, 2003 et 2004. Il a plu juste avant les vendanges. Mais, le rendement est resté modéré grâce à un travail à la taille différent. Goûte la dernière fois en 2003, j'ai trouvé un vin épicé et fruité au nez. Il est très distingué pour un vin fait dans l'autre hémisphère. C'est ce qui m'a surpris dès les premiers instants de notre rencontre. Corps caressant à la densité et à la finale normales.

**15,75**

Jean-Marc Quarin  
Jul. 2005

**88**