

Wicked Cellars Tasting Notes
Saturday, February 22nd, 2-5 p.m.

"A Trip to Argentina" Tasting

\$10 Tasting Fee

\$5 for Wine Club Members

Tasting Fee Refunded with Purchase of Three Bottles From the Tasting

Cuvelier los Andes Colección 2010 Merlot \$21.99

"The 2010 Colección Merlot offers up a fragrant perfume of oak, red fruits, and a touch of herbs and balsamic. With excellent richness and length, it offers outstanding value in a wine that is meant for drinking over the next 5-7 years."

(Reviewed by *The Wine Advocate*, 90 points.)

Zuccardi 2010 Q Malbec \$21.99

In the vast, high altitude desert province of Mendoza, at the foot of the Andes Mountains, Familia Zuccardi, Argentina's largest family-owned winery has produced wines of exceptional quality for over 40 years.

This 100 % Malbec from La Consulta, Vista Flores and Agrelo vineyards grows at altitudes well over 3,000 feet. It is a wine of great personality, showing a deep purple color, with bluish hues, and offering intense aromas of blackberries, cassis, currant, dried figs and blueberry jelly.

Cuvelier los Andes 2010 Colección Red Blend \$21.99

This blend of 57% Malbec, 20% Merlot 20% and 11% Syrah with splashes of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot, is French oak aged 12 months before bottling.

“Medium red-ruby. Aromatic, expressive nose offers blackberry, licorice, bitter chocolate and a touch of violet. Juicy and tightly wound but still pliant, with lovely energy and shape to the flavors of dark berries, dark chocolate and licorice. Finishes fresh and ripely tannic, with a youthfully medicina.” (Reviewed by Stephen Tanzer, 91 points, *International Wine Cellar*, Mar/Apr 13).

“Polished and well-structured, this red offers fine tannins and fresh acidity supporting notes of pure cassis and black cherry puree. Spice, mineral and dark tobacco hints add range to the finish. Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2016”. (Reviewed by Nathan Wesley, 91 points *Wine Spectator*, 31/10/2013).

Zuccardi 2009 Q Cabernet Sauvignon \$21.99

The Zuccardis grow all their vines under the parral trellis system, a series of green arches that enables photosynthesis to take place under perfect conditions, promoting higher levels of polyphenols and antioxidants in the grapes. The parral system and the very dry desert-like climate in Mendoza with its few pests lend themselves to organic farming practices.

This Cabernet is a deep purple violet color. Its bouquet presents intense aromas of ripe blackberry, cassis, and cherry with touches of figs, herbs and black pepper. It is well balanced with nuances of tobacco, chocolate and coffee due to oak aging. The wine is elegant and tasty with firms and gentle tannins and a long and persistent finish.

O. Fournier 2012 "Urban Uco" Red Blend \$14.99

“The 2012 Urban Uco Tempranillo Malbec is an equal blend of each variety aged for three months in used oak barrels. It has a lifted, floral bouquet with dark cherries, mulberry and a touch of black currant pastilles. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, slightly dusty tannins. It is very harmonious and fresh with vibrant blackberry, bilberry and crushed stone. It is a little abrupt on the finish, but hopefully it will gain

more persistency with bottle age. Drink now-2016. (Reviewed by Robert Parker, Jr. *The Wine Advocate*).

"(A 50/50 blend; done entirely in stainless steel): Good medium ruby-red. Musky black cherry, minerals, smoke and licorice on the nose, plus a suggestion of chocolate liqueur. Quite primary on the palate yet suave and approachable, showing good volume to its crushed blackberry flavor. Finishes with building tannins and noteworthy length. A superb value." (Reviewed by *Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar* Mar/April 2013).

Hand of God 2010 "Fingerprint Series" Red \$48.99

Harmoniously integrated immediately after fermentation, this blend of 55% Malbec, 35% Syrah and 10% Petit Verdot boasts great power, multi-layered complexity and length.

"The 2010 Fingerprint Series Red Blend...has a very ripe, glossy bouquet that is loaded with glycerin. Notes of sloes, kirsch and fresh dates all vie for attention, combining to create a heady and attention grabbing bouquet. The palate is viscous on the entry. The tannins are bold but fine and support the multi-layered black fruit laced with dark chocolate, black pepper and a touch of sage. The texture is silky smooth, while the finish is impressive in terms of its composure and delineation, with a sprinkle of white pepper lingering on the aftertaste. Drink 2014-2020." (Reviewed by Neal Martin, *The Wine Advocate*)