

Gimenez Mendez

Las Brujas, Montevideo, Uruguay



Sandwiched between two giants, Argentina and Brazil, Uruguay receives scant attention from the rest of the world, yet it has a wine industry to be proud of, capable of producing quality at least as good as anything coming from the Andes, over 1000 kilometers to the west. In the south of the country, near the capital, Montevideo, bordering the estuary of the Rio de la Plata, the climate is moderate and maritime, not dissimilar to that of Bordeaux.



THE TANNAT GRAPE



19th century emigrants to South America from south west France took their local vine varieties with them. Thus Carmenère took root in Chile and Malbec found its way to Mendoza. Meanwhile the French Basques who settled in Uruguay brought their local Tannat. Plantings in Uruguay now far exceed those in France, where the variety survives as the main grape in the wines of Madiran. By nature dark and tannic, Tannat appears to ripen better in Uruguay, giving wines of a softer, riper style than in France, and though by no means lacking in structure, ready to drink much earlier.

GIMENEZ MENDEZ is an established family winery with 100 hectares of vines located in the regions of Las Brujas, Montevideo, Los Cerrillos and Canelón Grande, in the south of Uruguay, a natural area for the production of fine wines. Marta Gimenez Mendez and



her two sons, Luis and Mauro, produce fine wines with a commitment to quality and excellence attainable only in a truly family enterprise. Their emphasis is on wines of balance and finesse, rather than the macho extremes of style one encounters elsewhere in the New World.



WHITE

Alta Reserva Viognier 2014 £63.95

Pale straw, a delicate nose of peach, jasmine and violets, long and complex in the mouth.

Alta Reserva Sauvignon Blanc 2014 £69.95

Very pale colour, with plenty of personality. Fresh and lively, grassy and pungent, a real palate reviver.

RED

Alta Reserva Tannat 2013 £84.75

Generous in colour and body, with ripe tannins and fruit, plus excellent structure and a lasting impression of elegance.

Alta Reserva Malbec 2013 £84.95

Smooth and elegant, with soft ripe tannins and excellent balance, developing well on the finish.

LYM Tannat 2006/9 £139.95

Assembled from two cuvées made respectively by brothers Luis in Las Brujas and Mauro in Montevideo, hence the 'LYM' designation, displaying impressive depth and length with wonderfully ripe, chocolatey fruit and smooth tannins.

Luis A. Gimenez Super Premium Tannat 2007 £339.00

A dark and concentrated red colour, with a deep, rich, fruity nose, showing blueberry fruit mixed with oak from the new French barrels. Very toasty in style, very rich, with a dark, slightly charcoaly edge, redolent of hot and smoking embers. Rich, almost silky, delicious and creamy.

ROSÉ

Alta Reserva Tannat Rosé 2014 (screw cap) £63.95

With more character than many pink wines, the deep yet brilliant colour accompanies good, fleshy fruit and nicely balanced acidity.

Alta Reserva Malbec Rosé 2014 £63.95

A slightly paler colour than the Tannat Rosé, with good balance and wild fruit notes that persist well from nose through to finish.

DESSERT

Late Harvest Chardonnay Viognier 2011 24 x 37.5cl £149.95

The low lying Las Brujas vineyard, only some 10 miles from the coast, provides excellent conditions for (over)ripening healthy grapes. This wine is elegant, long and beautifully balanced.

Licor de Tannat 2007 12 x 50cl £120.65

With its naturally intense colour and high acidity, the Tannat shares many of the properties of the grape varieties traditionally used on the Douro for making Port, so it is no surprise that it responds very happily to similar vinification techniques.

All prices are Duty Paid excluding VAT, for 12 x 75cl bottles except where indicated otherwise

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