



## **South America paints the town red at International Wine Challenge**

*Chile and Argentina celebrate success with 24 Gold medals*

South America showed its prowess as a red wine powerhouse at the International Wine Challenge, the world's most rigorously judged wine competition.

Frenchman Hervé Joyaux Fabre, IWC's reigning Red Winemaker of the Year 2018, had another successful competition, with his Argentina-based Bodegas Fabre awarded the Mendoza Red Blend Trophy and Argentinian Red Trophy for its HJ Fabre Reservado Malbec Cabernet Franc 2017 (96/100).

Of the 24 Golds awarded to Argentina and Chile, all but one were awarded to red wines. The exception was Chilean Viña Undurraga's T.H. Chardonnay Limarí 2016, which scored 95 points.

In total, Argentina scored 16 Gold, 87 Silver and 124 Bronze medals, while Chilean winemakers were awarded eight Gold, 95 Silver and 170 Bronze medals.

Thirteen of Argentina's Golds were awarded to wines from Mendoza, all of which bar one were Malbec varietals or Malbec-dominated blends.

Argentina's leading producers were Trapiche with three Golds and Trivento Bodegas y Viñedos and Familia Schroeder with two Golds apiece.

The Mendoza Malbec Trophy was awarded to Doña Paula Selección de Bodega 2016 (96 points), while both the Patagonian Malbec Trophy and the Argentinian Malbec Trophy were awarded to Familia Schroeder's Saurus Select Malbec 2017 (96 points).

IWC co-chair Sarah Abbot MW commented: "It was great to see the evolution of Malbec from Argentina, with its trademark exuberance tempered and enhanced by freshness and well balanced oak."

The top Chilean red – and winner of the Chilean Red Trophy – is VSPT Wine Group's Leyda Lot 8 2015, with 96 points.

### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

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#### **The International Wine Challenge**

In its 37<sup>th</sup> year, the International Wine Challenge IWC is accepted as the world's finest and most meticulously judged competition. The IWC assesses every wine 'blind' and judges each for its faithfulness to style, region and vintage. Each medal-winning wine is tasted on at least three separate occasions by a minimum of 12 different judges including Masters of Wine. Awards include medals (Gold, Silver, Bronze) and Commended awards. The IWC is committed to helping consumers discover great wine, and the medals displayed on winning bottles offer a trusted guarantee of quality.

For more information on the IWC and full results, please contact the IWC team at Phipps [iwc@thisisphipps.com](mailto:iwc@thisisphipps.com) : +44 (0) 20 7759 7400 : 17 Exeter Street, London, WC2E 7DU, UK

