



Sustainably Farmed

All of wineries in the VINO del Sol portfolio are sustainably farmed. This means the wines are created in an environmentally-conscious and socially-friendly way, and that the vineyards can continue to produce grapes indefinitely.

Below are some examples of how our vineyards are sustainably farmed:

The People and Business

All of the VINO del Sol wineries are family operations, with a shared multi-generational vision for a sustainable long-term business. Also, all of the VdS wineries are Argentine-owned, and valuable assets to the local community. The wineries proudly invest in the long-term employment and care of their workers. Zolo, Tapiz, and Spirit of the Andes have achieved the Global G.A.P. (Good Agricultural Practice) certification and were rewarded the Gold Medal for Sustainable Practices at the 2011 Best of Mendoza / Great Wine Capitals Awards.

The Land

Argentina's grape growing regions are blessed with a dry, warm, and high-altitude climate. This is the perfect natural growing condition for grapes, as non-organic pesticides and fungicides are not needed. The age of the vines (many of the VINO del Sol vineyards are over 90 years old) speaks to the inherent health of the ecosystem. Our wineries go the extra mile to protect the soil in a sustainable manner: for example, Tapiz & Zolo create their compost out of the discarded grape skins and solid, and use natural cover crops for added nutrients. Ksana, Lamadrid and Verum use high density plantings to naturally balance the cluster-per-vine production. Spirit of the Andes is produced from an organically-certified vineyard.

The Water

All of the water used in vineyard irrigation comes from naturally-recurring Andes snow-melt. In Mendoza this sustainability is ensured by the Provincial Water Law and administered by the Departamento General de Irrigación, a mixed organization in which the farming community represents themselves in a Farmer's Council. The final distribution of the assigned volume to each vineyard is the responsibility of the famous *Tomero*. Altocedro and Camino del Inca and the other wineries utilize computer-controlled drip irrigation to further conserve water.

Continued Education

Given the long-term environmental and business vision of the VINO del Sol wineries, it is not surprising they invest more than most in research and the education of their workers. For example, Tapiz rewards scholarships for continuous education to its employees, and established a weaving program to sustain the traditional weaving art (the wool comes from llamas, which live on the vineyards).

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