



Susana Balbo

Brioso

Backgrounder



In a country dominated by male winemakers, Susana Balbo stands out not only for her gender, but for her incredible skill and experience. She has been making wine since she earned her enology degree in 1981, and she has probably produced a wider variety of wines than any other winemaker in Argentina. Susana was the first Argentine winemaker to be hired as a consultant to make wine outside of Argentina. She has made wine in Australia, California, Chile, France, Italy, South Africa, and Spain, and she spends a month each year in a different wine region of the world studying with local winemakers and growers. She is also sometimes

referred to as the “Queen of Torrontes” for her work in improving that variety’s quality and reputation in the Calchaqui Valley of Salta Province.



In 1999, Susana decided it was time to apply her education and experience to her own wines and put her name right on the bottle. In 2002, she designed and built her Dominio del Plata winery where she could maintain better control over the winemaking. Susana strives for balance in her wines, with layers of complexity coming from the individually fermented varietals. She wants people who drink her wines to feel that every sip from the glass is as exciting as the first.

The Balbo Signature wine labels feature figurines from a silver Huarpe Indian necklace that Susana owns. The figures represent women’s reproductive role as the connection between the past, present, and future. She considers her role as winemaker to be the connection between the vineyards (past), the winemaking (present), and the finished wines (future).



The 2003 Brioso, a blend of traditional Bordeaux varietals, is her most prized wine. Brioso means "tenacity or strength of spirit", and it is the adjective most often used by Susana’s close friends to describe both herself and her passion for make great wines. It is considered one of the great wines being produced today in Argentina. Just one taste will show you why.



Susana Balbo wines are produced under Dominio del Plata's code of sustainable agriculture.