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Wine Jewels from South America: A Red & a White: Great wines at discount pricing

I am on the run today, but wanted to get this out as quickly as possible. By the time you read this I will be on my way to an industry Spanish tasting to try & find more tasty treats. From there it's off to a dinner with some friends in the wine business which promises to be a lot of fun. So the best way to secure a few bottles is to e-mail me. All the wines are in the house & ready for pick up. I will process orders based on the time they arrive and will confirm on Thursday. Yes it's a busy time on the wine trails but it makes it all worth while.

Today I will be shorter than usual, but please do not let that distract you. These wines are the real deal and if you need more information just ask.

Wines from South America have been on fire. Most wine drinkers get an introduction via an inexpensive and easy to drink \$12 bottle of Malbec or Chardonnay. Yet if you decide to step up most people get surprised that a wine from here often approaches the 3 figure price point. Many South American wines are actually amazing and offer super value. We in the USA get the best of all worlds. Our market gets a very big share of the top dogs and in addition the wines are often priced well below their prices in their native countries. When we get some close out deals like the wines we feature today -well you will be hard to beat the quality/price ratio. These selections are generally best buys even within wines from their own countries so with a little age and below release price I don't expect these to last long...

\$\$\$ Today's Wine Deals \$\$\$

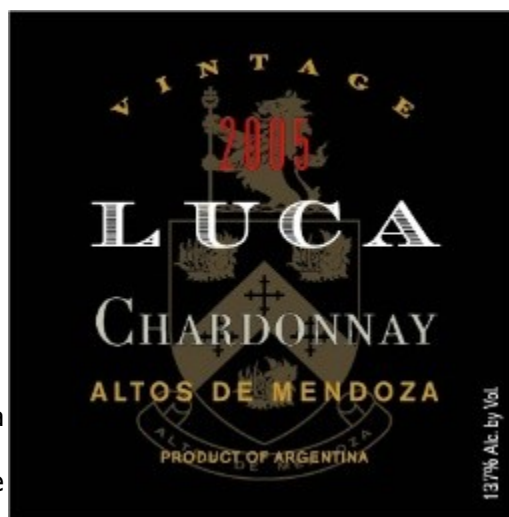
LUCA Chardonnay Altos de Mendoza 2006

\$29.50/bottle, or \$28-/ bottle- with our cash discount (checks are ok)

From a family of 4 generations of wine makers, this wine is the project of **Laura Catena** the wine is named after her first child. Laura is a big Burgundy aficionado and wanted to make a world class small production wine from select grapes to show-case what can be achieved in Argentina. Similarly to the wine deal we featured last week; here is an opportunity to snag a wine which has benefited from a few years of aging at below release price. (which is normally at \$33-35)

The only thing I don't like is that this wine comes in a ridiculous heavy big bottle - I have complained to Laura about the Environmental impact ...to date the marketing people still don't get it, but once you get past the massive amount of glass this is truly Delicious

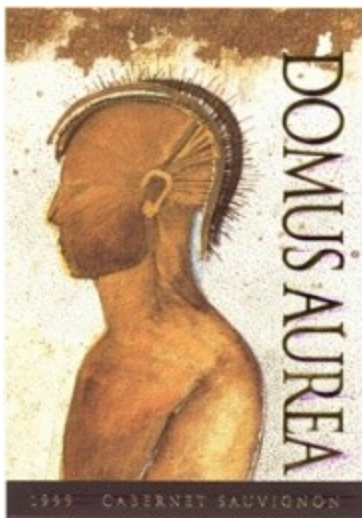
The review in the **Wine Advocate** pretty much sums it all -pay attention to the last line **Wine Advocate** Dec 2007: **92 points**: " Luca Chardonnay is annually a candidate for Argentina's finest Chardonnay, the primary competitor being Catena Zapata. The 2006 Chardonnay was aged for 12 months in French oak, 50% new. It is light gold in color with a superb aromatic display of spicy oak, mineral, butterscotch, poached pear, and tropical fruits. Medium to full-bodied, it is smoothly textured with outstanding depth and concentration and a lengthy finish. It blows away most white Burgundies and California Chardonnays at twice the price."



DOMUS AUREA Cabernet Sauvignon Upper Maipo Valley 2004

\$41/bottle, or \$39-/ bottle- with our cash discount (checks are ok)

From Chile's oldest wine producing regions: This is the top wine from **Vina Quebrada**. Again, an excellent showing from a great vintage. I recently had a bottle of this with friends and it was impressiv in it's dept and complexity! This is not an over the top wine. There is power, but plenty of elegance and class. By the time I sampled the leftover the next day, even more complexity & mint notes came out to play. You can age this like a good Bordeaux or big Cali Cab. Or enjoy it now with a few hrs. of decanting. Once again a wine with a few extra years of bottle age have this big boy entering a nice drinking zone, and at the best price I could find. Limited



Wine Spectator Score: 93 Release Price: \$55 Jun 15, 2008:

"This is alluring, with mint, sage and warm cocoa aromas leading the way for dried currant, licorice, loam and coffee notes. There's plenty of grip, particularly for the vintage, with extra waves of currant and mint on the lengthy finish. Drink now through 2016."

**Thanks for all your support and referrals.
Tell your friends, share the wine, & spread the good vibe. Cheers!**

Paul David, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

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Please note that you must be at least 21 years old to order or receive alcohol from this newsletter. All orders require the signature of a person at least 21 years of age.

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