



## PRODUCER PROFILE

Estate owned by: Nicolás Catena  
Winemaker: Alejandro Vigil  
Total acreage under vine: 900  
Estate founded: 1902  
Region: Mendoza  
Country: Argentina

## Catena Alta Chardonnay 2018

### WINE DESCRIPTION

During the 1990's, Bodega Catena Zapata set new standards for Argentine wine. In an effort to produce a super-premium wine, the winemaking team of Catena began in-depth investigation into the yields from specially selected, high altitude vineyards, identifying the individual lots that produce the best fruit. These vines undergo a careful thinning process, leaving only a select few clusters, resulting in remarkably complex, aromatic and flavorful fruit. Through the application of natural techniques, these grapes are transformed into Catena Alta. The Catena Alta Chardonnay is produced from two of the Catena family vineyards - Adrianna, at almost 5,000 feet elevation and Domingo, at 3,700 feet elevation. The Adrianna vineyard's pebble covered soil and cool climate are ideal for growing Chardonnay. The fruit from Adrianna has a purity of flavors and a minerality that is particular to this vineyard and cannot be found anywhere else in Mendoza. Meanwhile, the sandy loam soils of the Domingo vineyard contribute white stone fruit and good acid balance. This Chardonnay is 100% barrel fermented in French oak with aggressive battonage. Dijon Clonal Selection.

### TASTING NOTES

The Catena Alta Chardonnay presents an intense greenish-yellow color. The nose offers ripe white fruit aromas such as pears and peaches that are interwoven with delicate citrus and floral notes, such as Jasmine. The palate shows rich and concentrated ripe pear, apple and apricot flavors with a light note of minerality. The wine finishes long and complex with crisp, mineral acidity.

### FOOD PAIRING

Marinated chicken or seafood and lighter dishes.

### VINEYARD & PRODUCTION INFO

Vineyard name:	The Adrianna (Lot 1) and Domingo (Lot 7) Vineyards
Vineyard size:	296
Soil composition:	Depending on vineyard - Sandy loam with calcareous layer, sandy limestone with clay, surface stones
Training method:	VSP
Elevation:	3,675-4757 feet
Vines/acre:	2200
Yield/acre:	1.2 ton tons
Exposure:	Northwestern
Year vineyard planted:	1992
Harvest time:	March - April
First vintage of this wine:	1995

### WINEMAKING & AGING

Varietal composition:	100% Chardonnay
Fermentation container:	French oak barrels
Length of alcoholic fermentation:	50 days
Maceration technique:	Battonage
Malolactic fermentation:	Yes
Type of aging container:	Barriques
Size of aging container:	225 L
Age of aging container:	45% New
Type of oak:	French oak
Length of aging before bottling:	14 months

### ANALYTICAL DATA

Alcohol:	13.7%
pH level:	3.2

# Catena Alta Chardonnay 2017

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## WINE DESCRIPTION

At almost 5,000 feet elevation in the Andean foothills, the Adrianna vineyard's calcareous soils and cool climate are the promised land of Chardonnay. The fruit from the Adrianna vineyard has a purity of flavors and a minerality that is particular to this vineyard and can not be found anywhere else in Mendoza. The nearby, gravel-covered Domingo Vineyard makes up 20% of the blend. Elevage: 14 months in French oak barrels.

## VINIFICATION

Whole clusters are pressed, and then 100% fermented in 500 L French oak barrels with natural yeasts at low temperatures. Wild yeasts. Aged for 14 months in French oak. 30% does not undergo malolactic fermentation. First, second and third use barrels used.

## VINEYARDS

Adrianna Vineyard: 4,757 ft (1,450 m). Gualtallary District, Tupungato Region, Uco Valley, Mendoza, Argentina. Alluvial, gravelly with limestone deposits in the topsoil. Lot 1.

Domingo Vineyard: 3,675 ft (1,120 m). Surface is completely covered with gravel. Alluvial topsoil is loamy with limestone deposits at 11,8 inches (30cm). Plant selection: Dijon Clones and Selección Mendoza. Lot 7.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietal: 100% Chardonnay

Alcohol: 13.9%

Total Acidity: 6.75 grams/liter

pH: 3.2



## HISTORIC ROWS

Catena Alta is an assemblage of historic rows within the Catena family State vineyards. The blend of these historic rows, like the combination of sounds that create a symphony, gives us highly aromatic and elegant wine that speaks for the terroir and the vines that have been tended by the four generations of the Catena Family. "Alta" means high in Spanish. This makes reference to the high altitude vineyards from where the grapes are sourced, and to the high end wines that are produced with this special grapes.

