

PROYECTO Las Compuertas

DURIGUTTI

PRESS RELEASE

Launch of Proyecto Las Compuertas – Héctor and Pablo Durigutti

“Interpreters of our origins”

Proyecto las Compuertas begins in 2007 when Pablo and Héctor Durigutti purchase 12 acres (5 hectares) of an old Malbec vineyard on Callejón De la Reta, a few yards away from the winery they own on Roque Sáenz Peña Street.

From that moment, they embarked on a journey to restore and reappraise the history and traditions of Las Compuertas, an iconic wine-making region of Luján de Cuyo.

“Las Compuertas is a place that is rich in history and traditions, and because of our passion for wine we especially appreciate it, so we decided to work and preserve that entire cultural heritage. It is the area with the coldest weather in the region, and it features significant soil diversity, as well as traditional methods of working the centennial vineyards,” explains Héctor Durigutti.

Over the years, those first 12 acres (5 hectares) grew to add 10 additional old vineyards purchased from the Llano family (2008), plus 10 more unplanted vineyards from the De La Reta family. Currently, they own almost 61 acres (25 hectares) under the name of **Victoria Estate**, paying homage to Héctor and Pablo’s mother.

The main goal of Proyecto Las Compuertas is to enable and support the development of local producers who very proudly maintain their vineyards in the face of a seemingly unstoppable urbanization.

“We set out to become a part of Las Compuertas and bring our heritage to life in this area where we decided to live here and grow with our families. We feel a strong commitment to reclaiming the traditions of this historic wine-making area and becoming the interpreters of this unique terroir,” says Pablo Durigutti.

Victoria Estate now features 37 acres (15 hectares) of 1914 Malbec, 6.7 acres (2.7 hectares) of Cabernet Franc, 5.5 acres (2.2 hectares) of Petit Verdot, almost 2 acres (0.8 hectares) of Cordisco, and 0.5 acres (0.2 hectares) of Nero D’avola. According to local tradition in Las Compuertas, all vineyards feature high density planting, with some areas of land with 9,200 plants per hectare, and others with 7,200 plants per hectare. Moreover, they continue using the flood irrigation method performed by experts from the region.

PROYECTO Las Compuertas

DURIGUTTI

During this first stage, **Proyecto Las Compuertas** produces four wines that aim at recovering the expression of a historic terroir, its traditions and methods of working the vineyards. In addition, precision viticulture studies were performed in order to identify the characteristics of the different soils in the 61 acres (25 hectares) of Victoria Estate. A combination of work techniques helped understand the character and potential of the area.

The wines:

Proyecto Las Compuertas Criolla Parral 2017 – From the Don Danielle vineyard, which dates back to 1943, this wine restores the essence of the wines intended for local consumption. In order to maintain the true expression of this varietal and its place of origin, this wine was fermented in concrete eggs using native yeasts.

Proyecto Las Compuertas Cordisco 2017 – From an experimental area of land in the estate comes the first wine from Mendoza of this variety which originated in Abruzzo, Italy. This wine was fermented in concrete eggs using native yeasts.

Proyecto Las Compuertas Malbec 5 Suelos 2016 – Based on the results of the precision viticulture studies, five wines were produced according to the different soil profiles. Each wine is prepared separately in concrete eggs, and then aged for 8 months in 500 liter (132 gallon) third- and fourth-use oak barrels. Then the final cut is done.

Proyecto Las Compuertas Malbec 1914 Cosecha 2015 – From the clay soils that are typical of Las Compuertas, this wine owes its name to the year when the original vines were planted. Over 100 years of history in a bottle of wine. It is fermented in concrete eggs, and then aged in a 2,000 liter (528 gallon) vat.

“These four wines represent the beginning of a long journey of discovery. This is our way of living, feeling and interpreting the essence of Las Compuertas, based on traditional vinification, and with minimal intervention on the wines.”

*Proyecto Las Compuertas
“Recovering a land and a people with a rich history”*