



*Bodega Piedra Negra Winery in Los Chacayes*



*Owner François Lurton*



*Winemaker Thibault Lepoutre*

## Key Facts

### Year Established

1996

### Altitude

1,100 m.a.s.l.

### Hectares

99

### Grapes grown

Malbec, Cot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Pinot Gris, Tocai Friulano, Sauvignon Blanc, Viognier.

### Certifications

Organico Argentino

### Condor Portfolio

9 wines

## Producer

A pioneer in the Uco Valley, Bodega Piedra Negra was established in 1996. François Lurton was the first person to plant vines in the foothills of the Andes Cordillera (at an altitude of 1,100 m.a.s.l.) in semi-desert conditions in the middle of what would become the Geographical Indication of Los Chacayes. The poor, gravelly, alluvial soil reminded him of Pessac-Léognan in Bordeaux! Drawing on expertise acquired all over the world, he immediately introduced environmentally friendly growing methods. His 99 hectares of vines are managed organically and in adherence to biodynamic principles. The estate practices natural weed control with sheep and agroforestry, planting local trees such as Chacayes in the vineyards. They also produce their own compost (equal parts pomace, chicken manure, cow manure and earth) and honey. Even the winery restaurant reduces waste by creating chicken feed from leftovers! In addition to Argentine selections of Malbec, the estate also grows French selections of the grape (known as Cot). In white grapes they offer a rare source of wines produced from Pinot Gris.

## Winemaker

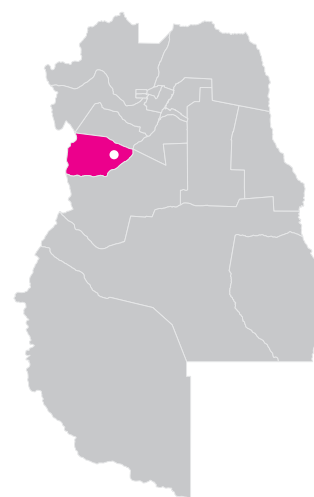
Thibault Lepoutre was born in 1984 in France. He studied agronomy in northern France and then went to the ENSAM of Montpellier where he graduated in agronomy and oenology. After a few vintages in France (Bordeaux and Champagne), he worked in Ukraine, Brazil and Portugal (Douro). He came to Argentina in 2012 to join Bodega Piedra Negra, rising to become winery director. During this time he focused on implementing organic agriculture across the whole estate and beginning to use biodynamic practices. He was also part of the creation of the G.I. Los Chacayes, one of the very first and most prestigious appellations in Mendoza.

## Location

Los Chacayes, Tunuyán, Uco Valley, Mendoza, Argentina



*Mendoza, Argentina*



*Tunuyán, Mendoza*