

Is Another Bear Market Around the Corner?
 If you have a \$500,000 portfolio, you should download the latest report by *Forbes* columnist Ken Fisher's firm. It tells you where we think the stock market is headed and why. This must-read report includes our latest stock market forecast, plus research and analysis you can use in your portfolio right now.
[Click Here to Download](#) FISHER INVESTMENTS

HERALD | THE HERALD BUSINESS | THE JUNIOR HERALD | HERALD ARTDAY

JOIN | SIGN IN | MY PAGE

The Korea Herald

National Business Life & Style Entertainment Sports World Opinion Power Korea English Cafe

Culture Travel Fashion Food & Beverage Books People Expat Living Design Health

Latest News [Newsmaker] Kim on track to 2nd Olympic title

The Korea Herald > Life&Style > Travel > Travel

Argentina mixes olives and wine, keeps travelers happy

Share 0 Tweet 0 Email Print

Published : 2013-03-15 20:17
Updated : 2013-03-15 20:17

MAIPU, Argentina — Ten minutes in the orchard and already my hands felt raw. How do they do this all day without gloves, I wondered, shuffling my feet for a better foothold in Argentina's sandy clay.

It was Thursday, the day we'd expected to be tasting wine at the Zuccardi family's finca (ranch) and winery, in Maipu, Mendoza Province. Instead, we were clawing through a tangle of branches, trying to pick enough olives to feed Zuccardi's state-of-the-art olive oil press.

It looked so easy when Torey Novak, Zuccardi's tour guide, gave a demonstration. You hang a cone-shaped canvas sack around your neck and pick a tree loaded with ripe fruit. Reaching up into a branch, you grab it with both hands and yank down hard, stripping the olives off and into the sack. When your neck cries uncle, you empty the sack into the 40-pound crate handily stacked nearby. Then you fill the second crate, and the third, all day every day until the harvest ends or your hands scream uncle.

"Nah, most good pickers don't wear gloves," said Novak, amused. He could see I was hopelessly awkward. "I couldn't do it either," he admitted. "Not for long, anyway. But our best picker can fill 45 crates in a day." Mercifully, my career as a field hand died before it was born.

But why in blazes were we fooling with olives when we'd left Buenos Aires three days earlier on a mission: to smell, savor, taste and compare Malbec, Argentina's signature red wine, at the source? And why was "La Familia Zuccardi," a family-owned, three-generation-old winery and leading Malbec producer, growing olives?



The snow-capped Andes Mountains rise above the vineyards at Vistalba Winery in Mendoza, Argentina. (Stever Haggerty/MCT)

As it happens, a number of long-established wineries here in the Cuyo area, scrubby desert land on the sunny east slope of the Andes Mountains, grow multiple crops. The soil, irrigated for centuries before Europeans explored the region, is ideal for growing both grapes and olives; more than 6,000 olive growers and 1,200 wineries are scattered through the two adjacent provinces of Mendoza and San Juan.

The region's newer wineries stick mostly to grapes, concentrating their efforts on building sales. But for visitors to the region, the complete farm-to-bodega tour adds another dimension altogether. When you've mucked around in the man's orchards and harvested his olives, you feel invested.

After picking the fruit, clumping through the mud and riding back to the processing plant with the

- Headline News Most Read
1. Syrian opposition to choose ...
 2. China's Xi calls for 'grea...
 3. Korea expands use of chemica...
 4. Kim on track to 2nd Olympic...
 5. Pope explains name, urges '...
 6. Korea's labor supply to pe...
 7. Police seek warrant for man ...
 8. Foreign Ministry to regain r...
 9. UPP chief investigated for N...
 10. U.S. plans stronger missile ...

Pansori Korean Traditional Dance

National Theater of Korea

Traditional Performing Arts Academy for Foreign Residents

Course Dates: 4.2 ~ 6.27

Sign up now

- BEST Click mad
- 1 ▶ 대명리조트 ◀ 분양책자 무료배송!
 - 2 이혼녀 로또21억 수령받자마자...
 - 3 이 가격에 평생 안경을 벗겨줬다?
 - 4 고려대출신 "50억"거절강사! "폭로"
 - 5 "100억"번 화성인男 진실 밝혀져..
 - 6 귀에서 "삐~소리", 원인 알고보니...
 - 7 로또537회 1등번호 이미정해져있어
 - 8 노숙자 로또33억 수령 받자마자
 - 9 연금복권1등 당첨금알아보니."경악"

100% 유기농 · 무농약 생과일 저스트주스

about

어바웃 쇼핑박스

crates stacked on the golf cart, we watched our olives macerated into mush. Tasting the newly pressed oil, we proudly pasted labels on our take-home bottles. Then we knocked the dirt off our shoes and headed for the bodega itself.

Here, in the Casa Del Visitante, sepia-toned photos serve a slice of late 19th century history, capturing tired-looking Italian immigrants toting luggage, working the fields, picking grapes and vegetables and building railroads. Framed photos of Zuccardi's founding ancestors, frozen in ankle-length dresses and high collars, highlight the exhibits. Then it was on to the fermentation vats and eventually to the tasting room. The tour ended not with a "we're done, let's go," but with a traditional Argentine meal prepared by Chef Ana Rodriguez at the winery's casual cafe and food shop, the Pan y Oliva.



Chef Ana Rodriguez prepares traditional dishes at the Pan y Oliva cafe at the Zuccardi Winery in Mendoza, Argentina. (Steven Haggerty/MCT)

For wine aficionados, Mendoza is a destination in its own right. One way to get there is by flying through Miami to Santiago, Chile, and east over the Andes (a short flight or drive) into Argentina. But for us, the winery visits were an add-on, a last minute addition to a family reunion in Buenos Aires. Our third cousins in Buenos Aires (newly-discovered on Facebook) had invited us to visit more than once. When they proposed a trip to Mendoza, heart of the world's fifth largest wine industry, we couldn't say no.

What we'd forgotten is that Argentina is nearly as large as the United States (four times the size of Texas); Mendoza, 646 miles west of Buenos Aires, is hardly a weekend getaway. And with limited vacation time, flying was the only option. We'd rent a car at the airport, we assumed, and explore the wine country on a relaxed schedule, just as we've done in California's Napa and Sonoma, in Oregon, in Washington state, even in France.

But that isn't the way they do it in Mendoza. Because the wineries are scattered far apart and road signs are poor, drop-in guests are non-existent. Instead, you call or email and make a reservation for a specific time. On the appointed day, the bodega schedules a staff member to conduct the tasting, chooses sample wines and polishes the wine glasses.

Anyone can make a reservation for a visit and tasting. But there are advantages to signing up for a one- to five-day tour with a wine tour company, someone who knows the industry, the wineries and Argentine culture. It's akin to renting an audio guide when you visit an art museum. You come away better informed and certainly more entertained.

A typical tour – you choose the length – generally visits three wineries each day and includes daily lunch (with wine), hotels and transportation by van. If you have specific wine labels or vintages in mind, they'll customize your route. Our cousins, who knew the drill, handled it for the four of us, arranging a three-day guided tour with a guide they'd used before.

We started in San Juan Province, going first to Callia Winery and then to Graffigna, where Chief Wine Maker Gerardo Danitz, eager to answer even the dumbest question, fielded a tasting that could have doubled as Wine Wisdom 101. His patient explanations were an ideal send-off for what would be three days of tasting, spitting, tasting, sneaking a swallow here and there – for the strength to push on – and running out of adjectives to describe the infinite range of fruity, nutty flavors.

Heading south to Mendoza, we stopped first at Vistalba Bodega, wine czar Carlos Pulenta's show place, where most visits include both tasting and lunch at his much-acclaimed five-star restaurant, La Bourgogne. Then it was on to Tupungato Winelands to see recently planted vineyards and the new golf course; to Salentein and a culture museum; and finally to Zuccardi. Which is how we found ourselves in the dirt, discussing olive cultivation.

Until then I hadn't given much thought to immigrant history and the parallels between Argentina and the United States. But in most of the towns we saw, you could walk down the street and – except for the signs in Spanish – think you were at home. Both countries were settled by immigrants from Europe who brought farming skills to the New World. Settling in places like Wisconsin, Iowa, Virginia and throughout Argentina, they saw what looked like empty land, and displacing or killing the indigenous tribes, claimed it.

Early Spanish explorers and missionaries had already introduced grapes and cattle; with land to spare, beef cattle, herded by cowboys in the U.S. and by gauchos in Argentina, became a staple. And grapes, initially grown for the fruit or to make table wine for home use, became a commercial success.

Like Argentina's immigrants, Malbec grapes are also an import, brought from France. But it took Mendoza's sandy clay to create those tongue-tingling perfect fruity, nutty, oaky, you-name-it flavors. A wine bottle, tucked into my luggage for the return trip, would have been nice. But the custom-picked, personally selected, orchard-to-table olive oil made a better souvenir.

By Anne Z. Cooke and Steve Haggerty



2주만에 19kg감량한 실제 사연



아직도 트러블로 고생하시나요?

TMON

PRADA

노속자박세로도 33억받자마자...

청담동 소이 용돈만 10억??

이쁘면 뭐해.. 웃을때 비호감인데

노속자박세로도 33억받자마자...

청담동 소이 용돈만 10억??

이쁘면 뭐해.. 웃을때 비호감인데

Jeep

Subscribe now!

구독신청

The Korea Herald

(McClatchy-Tribune News Service)

(MCT Information Services)

이 시각 인기기사 _ Bilingual News

오디션 프로 출신 가수, 과거 밝혀져

- 30대 男, 아침밥 먹다가 "대박 황제"
- 외국인 커플, 사찰에서 '성적 행위' 발각
- 아역 출신 女배우 고백! "수치스러웠다"
- '아찔' 내 정자가 실수로 전 여친에게 ...
- 충격! 트럭만한 '괴물' 물고기 낚여!
- 애 딸린 30대 女, 10대 소년과 사귀다가...
- 女고등학교서 감금·성폭행...전국 발각!
- 10대 소년 '청소하다' 1800년대 보물 발견

- 골프, 타수를 줄이려면 '이것'부터 시작해야
- 허리에 차고 있으면 복부지방 썩! 무슨 원리지?
- 와이셔츠 다리는데 10초? '총알탄 다리미' 등장
- 가정용 전기료 30% 덜어주는 자린고비 상품
- 부당되는 병원비 "100세까지, 되돌려받는" 의료실비 가입꼭주!
- '100억'번 화성인男, 진실 밝혀져..경악!

이 기사의 번역·원어민 음성을 듣고 싶으세요? [디지털헤럴드] [List](#) [Top](#)

[f Share](#) 0
 [T](#) [weet](#) 0
 [t](#)
[f](#)
[p](#)
[e](#)
[Email](#)
[Print](#)

Photo News



Zo In-sung opens up on latest role



Kim far ahead of Asada in worlds



Samsung refreshes iPhone-challenging Galaxy line

emart mall 오늘만 특가 상품 보기

캠핑 텐트	복리 워킹화	리 카툰	반팔 아	무늬 하이힐	무너 대침
허어 브라	파카 스웨터	캠핑 주머니	플러 ~	도요 냄비	품명 전환

내 광고 망한이유 전문가가 보더니..충	커피대신 OO마시면 살이 뽀뽀빠져..	뇌졸중,심근경색 사망률1위 원인이..	연예인 비밀
---------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------

about Shopping Trend

HAPPY BUYRUS K2 [신세계몰]K2 등산화 특가 판매 중!	DODRY 대한민국 미시쇼핑몰 도드리! 예쁜 봄신상이 가득~	secret key 미백 주름개선 효모에센스! 72% 박세일!	fast 한번쯤 꿈꿔 온 칠랑거리는 긴 생머리
---	---	--	-------------------------------------

Herald 전화영어 Korea Herald 기사로 매일 시사와 영어학습을 동시에!

ABOUT HERALD CORPORATION | ABOUT KOREA HERALD | LOCATION | CONTACT US | [PRIVACY STATEMENT](#) | [COPYRIGHT POLICY](#) | [HERALD OMBUDSMAN](#)

[FAMILY SITE](#)
▪ THE HERALD BUSINESS ▪ THE KOREA HERALD ▪ THE JUNIOR HERALD ▪ THE HERALD BUSINESS(USA) ▪ HERALD EDU ▪ HERALD ACADEMY
 ▪ SEOUL/BUSAN/MOKPO/GEUJE/PEONGTAEK ENGLISH VILLAGES ▪ DIGITAL HERALD ▪ DONGA TV/DIAF ▪ HERALD ARTDAY ▪ HERALD ECOO-CHEM
 (주)헤럴드 | 대표이사 : 이영만 | 사업자등록번호 : 104-81-06004 | 통신판매업신고 : 제2010-서울중구-1377호 | 서울시 중구 세종대로21길 39(정동) | 대표전화 : 02)727-0114
 Copyright Herald Corporation. All Rights Reserved. 모든 기사(콘텐츠)는 저작권법의 보호를 받으며, 무단 전재/복사/배포 등을 금지 합니다.