



WINEMAKER PROFILE: THIBAUT DELMOTTE

Thibaut Delmotte followed his heart to Argentina in 2001, but once he arrived, he found a welcoming spirit in the people and the land. After meeting Donald Hess just as he was planning the revitalization of Colomé, and becoming captivated by his pioneering spirit and determination to do something memorable and miles beyond the expected, he signed on and has served as winemaker since 2005.

Originally from France, Thibaut began his wine career in 1998, when he was just 23 years old, spending three years in Burgundy, followed by three years in Bordeaux, all providing intensive hands-on experience rather than book based learning. Over the past decade he has adapted to the uniquely challenging and rewarding winemaking that is part of farming the world's highest vineyards in the Salta province. Over the past decade, his insights and experiences clearly show in the wines, which are now being touted as being among Argentina's First Growth in quality.

Thibaut's love affair with Argentina shows in his wines. His first trip found him visiting Chile, Bolivia and Peru, and then hitch-hiking all over the country. On his second visit three years later, his travel brought him to Salta, where he stayed for six months and taught French at the Alliance Française and conducted wine tastings. The remoteness has become his touchstone, and his appreciation for nature and admiration for the people of Colomé are the touchstones and comfort he finds far from his native France. One thing he misses from home: the cheese.

As for defining success? His simple answer: "people enjoying wine, particularly those I've helped create."