



**Santiago Achával**  
**Consulting Winemaker, The Vines of Mendoza**

When approached by Michael Evans and Pablo Gimenez Riili in 2005 to join The Vines of Mendoza, Santiago Achával knew it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

As The Vines of Mendoza's Consulting Winemaker, Achával's office is a tasting room filled with wine samples and bottles awaiting his critical palate. His teachings condense years of wine expertise into a hands-on experience that enable laymen to experience winemaking from grape-picking through wine production to bottling, extracting the best of the Uco Valley terroir.

Achával, an Argentine living in Cordoba, first became interested in wine after taking weekend trips with friends to the Napa Valley while completing an MBA at Stanford in 1989. There, he tasted fine wines and learned about the winemaking process. After completing his studies, he returned to Argentina and worked five years in a corporation. His free time was spent engaged with the culture of wine, mingling with local experts and expanding his knowledge through research and experimentation.

A decade later, Achával became managing partner of Achával-Ferrer, developing innovative techniques that brought Malbec to international attention in terms of quality and winemaking.

Achával continues to share his vast knowledge of Mendoza's rich wine culture with visitors to the Uco Valley, Mendoza and has been recognized as one of the world leaders in winemaking by Wine Spectator and Robert Parker's Wine Advocate.

Outside of the vineyard, he enjoys spending time with his family, riding horses, skiing and enjoying the outdoors.