



BETTER THAN BORDEAUX? A NEW CROP OF HOTELS IN SOUTH AMERICA'S WINE COUNTRIES

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For more than a decade, South American winemakers have been striving to put their bottles on a par with those from Napa or France. As we all know, they've made great strides—Argentinean wines climbed Wine Spectator's Top 100 lists in recent years—so what more do they require? New hotels. In Argentina's Mendoza Province, Vines Resort & Spa sells small plots to amateur oenophiles: You can develop your own vintage with the help of an in-house wine consultant. Vines' glassy villas have Andes views, and the spa is ideal for unwinding after a hard day of tasting (54-261-438-1031; doubles from \$500). Another Mendoza newcomer, Entre Cielos, has 16 rooms built around a luxurious hammam (54-261-498-3377; doubles from \$400). Across Chile's snowcapped peaks, near Santiago—less than an hour from Mendoza by plane—the couple behind Uruguay's fabulous Vik hotels are opening the 22-room Viña Vik. On nearly 11,000 acres with 12 valleys of vineyards, the hotel opens fully late this year, with horseback riding, wine tastings, and hiking; at the moment, only four rooms are open (56-99-534-9437; doubles from \$1,000). Viña Vik has competition in Clos Apalta Winery—a highly rated vineyard—and its four-casita hotel, Lapostolle Residence. The winery's new restaurant has a vine-swathed pergola and hillside vineyard views (56-72-953-360; doubles, \$1,200, all-inclusive).