

## Sonvida ( Casa Altamira )

### Argentina - Mendoza

SonVida is the dream of David S. and Sonia R., a Brit-Argentina marriage of two former journalists who dreamed of owning a vineyard and making a world-class wine. Sonia and David went back-packing in the wine country of Northern California and fell in love with the idea of owning a vineyard, and in 2002, they founded their Argentine winery, Sonvida.

Sonia began her adventure in wine after an international career in television news for the BBC, ITN and CNN. She is a Certified Sommelier of the Court of Master Sommeliers and has an international Wine MBA from the Bordeaux Ecole de Management.

After a career as a foreign correspondent for Reuters and ITN, David was a diplomat with the United Nations, and special adviser to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. David is also a Certified Sommelier of the Court of Master Sommeliers and holds an Advanced Certificate from the Wine and Spirits Education Trust (WSET) of London. David is the author of Dream On, a book about their wine adventure, published by Quartet Books, London.

SonVida is located in Valle de Uco, in a small area known as Altamira, close to the village of La Consulta. Their neighbors are Chandon, Catena, and Achaval Ferrer. Close by, sharing the valley, are O. Fournier, Clos de los Siete, Finca La Celia, and Lurton.

Their terroir is defined by the Andes. They are at 1,029 meters (3,376 feet) above sea level. Snow melts high in the mountains, and waters the vines. The earth is strewn with rounded pebbles, carried down the Andes over millennia, by streams and glaciers. The sun shines brightly 330 days a year. The cooling nighttime breezes help the grapes keep their freshness and mature with full flavors.

The logo for Sonvida, featuring the word "SONVIDA" in a stylized, orange, cursive font.

#### **Founded**

2002

#### **Wine Production Area**

Argentina - Mendoza -

#### **Owners**

David Smith & Sonia Ruseler

#### **Winemaker**

David Smith

#### **Grape Varietals**

Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Cabernet Franc

#### **Annual Production**

1,500 (9-liter cases)

#### **Website**

[www.sonvidawine.com](http://www.sonvidawine.com)