VINOGRAPHY: a wine blog

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The Bodeguero's Table: The Wines of De Lucca, Uruguay

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Populated by many more cows than people, the pastoral landscape of Uruguay is a place of kitchen hearths and kitchen tables. Most homes outside of the city feature a wood-fired parilla and the kind of kitchen table at which you could spend the entire day.



at many such ay. But by far I among the ive wooden

s across. do De I that I'd end of a I my tee

congeniality that pervades Uruguayan hospitality requires at least some deco from a visiting journalist.

But had I the temerity to get that comf would mind. This is a man whose rust winemaker," and whose patio had more

It would be easy, given the extremely elements of the bodequero's cosy hon

might not have strayed much farther than the little creek at the end of the lane that gives its name to his family's vineyards, the Rio Colorado.

Indeed, De growing dis certainly cla old guard v of the most country's le

These are some of the highest quality, most distinctive wines made in Uruguay, and can easily stand among the top wines of South America, and yet they are virtually unheard of in the United States.

ly's oldest wine uld most ed of Uruguay's France), and one ed push the

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Aqui vive un Bodeguero

While (Reinaldo De Lucca) would most certainly classify himself as a humble farmer, he is both one of the most internationally educated of Uruguay's old guard winemakers (with degrees from Penn State and from the University of Montpelier in France), and one of the most ardent advocates for Uruguay's modern fine wine industry, having personally helped push the country's level of quality to new heights.

"I wear my french T-shirt under my sweater," says De Lucca. By this I am meant to understand that you can take the boy out of Uruguay but you can never take the Uruguay out of the boy.