

An Optimized Wine Dad Pairing Guide for Father's Day

Dear old Dad. The man who's put up with you all these years (especially the teenage ones) truly deserves the best. You owe it to him to celebrate his fatherhood by painting the town red, or at the very least buying him a nice bottle of it.

A modern story of father and son bonding over wine is one of Aurelio Montes Sr. and Jr., of Montes and Kaiken wineries, respectively. Aurelio Sr., one of the most respected winemakers in South America, helms Montes winery in Chile; while his son, Aurelio Jr. runs Kaiken across the Andes in Argentina. The father-son team work together, often collaborating on new experiments—such as dry-farming and biodynamics—in each other's vineyards to keep their wines as close to nature as possible.

Just as there are



many different styles of wine made, so too are there different kinds of fathers. Here's an optimized guide for wine and Dad pairing:

For the "cool Dads:" go for the **Montes Alpha M (\$85)**. What makes a

Dad cool? Your cool Dad may have poured you your first drink or didn't get too mad when you got into that fender bender. Not all of us have a cool Dad. Thankfully, you have the opportunity to make your Dad a little bit cooler with the gift of this Chilean first growth. A blend of traditional Bordeaux varieties, its intense rouge color, smooth tannins, and notes of cassia and wild berry are sure to stimulate the senses.

Connect the thrill-seeking

father with adventurous winemaker Aurelio Montes, Jr. Papa of three and avid skydiver, one of the winemaker's favorites is his **Kaiken Mai (\$60)**. Mai means "first" in the language of the native Argentine Pehuenches. Remind Dad you're his favorite with this 100% Malbec. Grapes are hand-selected from 80-year-old vines to make a unique and elegant wine with aromas of spice on the nose and juicy dark fruit with ripe tannins on the palate. According to the winemaker, it is best enjoyed after a rousing round of boxing.

If Dad's a wine aficionado, invest in his happiness with a bottle of **Montes Taita (\$300)**. In Chilean families, the word "taita" is an affectionate term for a father: a gentle, wise, and loving patriarchal figure. Taita is a complex, limited production Cabernet Sauvignon-based wine. Intense ruby-red in color, this elegant yet powerful wine is endowed with soft tannins and delicious notes of cedar and bitter chocolate.

The man only gets honored this one day each year—so make the celebration the most meaningful you can with a solid bottle of wine made with the same kind of affection you want to show Dad on Father's Day.

Happy Father's Day!