## buenos

air



## SAVVY TIP WINE CHECK

The place to buy wine by the case is Parras (S 1777 Avda. Alvear: 54-11/4814-0011; parraswines.com), a shop in Recoleta that ships worldwide. For rarer bottlesincluding vintages produced by the country's renowned winemakers for their own cellars-stop into Grand Cru (1718 Avda, Alvear: 54-11/ 4816-2223; grandcru.com. ar), just down the street. It has a stash of Bodega Chacra 2004, Piero Incisa della Rocchetta's sensational Pinot Noir from Patagonia. In the States this wine is sold exclusively to a handful of restaurants and an invitation-only list of collectors. A few other labels to look for:

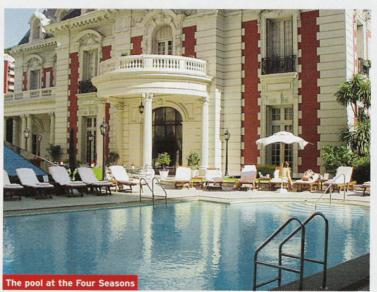
- Noemía 2004, a terrific Malbec from Patagonia
- Yacochuya 2001, a
   Malbec from the northwest region of Salta
- Angélica Zapata, which makes a great white wine in the heart of Mendoza

**BEST STANDARD ROOM** 

## The Four Seasons

T MAY NOT BE the choice for rugged individualists, but the Four Seasons Hotel Buenos Aires has, for our money, the best standard double rooms in town. Not only are they large (a cat-swinging 430 square feet) and exceedingly comfortable, but they were also recently brought up to date with chic lemon

and lime touches and mahogany furniture. The king-size beds are dressed in Egyptian cotton and goose down, the porcelain is Limoges, the silverware Ercuis, and there are little lifesaving touches—such as a PlayStation for the kids and a cell phone to take around town. Ask for a room facing the hotel's Mansión, a 1916 Belle



Epoque stunner that houses seven suites done in period style: Carrara marble, Parisian chandeliers, inlaid oak floors. You can take the crown jewel here, the 2,000-squarefoot Mozart Suite, or the entire mansion (for \$13,000 a night). Most people, however, get a glimpse of the grandeur during the hotel's sprawling Sunday lunch buffet. It's practically an institution for the city's beaux mondes. From \$310 to \$3,500. At 1086 Posadas: 54-11/4321-1710; four seasons.com/buenosaires. - C.B.

SAVVY TIP

## WHERE TO KEEP KOSHER

Since Latin America's largest Jewish community resides in Buenos Aires, the city has several good kosher restaurants: El Pasaje Restó & Bar (S dinner, \$55; 3141 Pasaje El Lazo; 54-11/4806-0084; elpasaje.com. ar), the steak house Al Galope (dinner, \$30; 2633 Tucumán; 54-11/4963-6888), and the Syrian Sephardic-influenced Mamá Jacinta (dinner, \$35; 2580 Tucumán; 54-11/4962-9149) all observe strict rabbinic practices. There is also a kosher McDonald's (3247 Corrientes; 54-11/5711-8171), which happens to be the only one on the South

