

Notes From The Cellar (NFTC); Winepairings e-letter Feb. 27, 2008

Top notch wine from a Frenchman in Paso Robles

Thanks for all who chimed in via e-mail on the changes to the Colorado liquor laws in last weeks newsletter. [see here](#) .

Today we are featuring a few special wines from the increasingly popular Central Coast of California area.

Stephan Asseo, left his native Bordeaux where he was a wine maker for 15 years, to search for a new place to make wine. In 1996 he founded his new dream winery in Paso Robles. In 12 short years he established himself as one of the leading wine makers of the area. He has been written about in many wine publications, and even featured in mainstream media magazines such as Business Week and the Robb Report, where in November 2007, Stephan was named one of the top 100 wine makers, and the Estate Cuvee was named one of the finest wines.

I met Stephan during my first trip to this region around 8 years ago. His easy going, jovial manner and passion for his craft, always made him a fun wine maker to hang around with. I have been drinking his wines for many years (they also age very well) and they never fail to impress. Always top rated, and made in small quantities, -these are not wines often found on sale. I was thrilled to see a few gems from his portfolio on close-out, on a recent inventory reduction list from a supplier. I naturally concentrated on the best values to offer you the 2 wines below. Quantities are limited.

\$\$\$ Special wine deals \$\$\$

L'aventure Estate Syrah 2003 \$36- (reg price \$45 to 80)

From Robert Parker's Wine Advocate issue 166, Aug 2006 :*The 2003 Syrah exhibits more jammy pain grille characteristics than the 2004, interwoven with less nuanced blackberry and cassis fruit, a flavorful opulence, considerable intensity, and abundant spice. It is more forward than its siblings, and should drink well over the next 7-10 years. This is a brilliant wine from a Frenchman who has captured the magic of Paso Robles. Drink 2006 - 2016 91 points*

Collector's corner

L'aventure Estate Cuvee 2005 \$57- (release price \$80)

Robert Parker , Wine Advocate # 172 Aug 2007:*The blockbuster 2005 Estate Cuvee (52% Syrah, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 8% Petit Verdot) exhibits an inky/blue/purple color as well as sumptuous aromas of charcoal, blueberry and blackberry liqueur, truffles, pain grille, and chocolate. Medium to full-bodied with good acidity, fabulous richness, a multilayered texture, and a stunningly long finish, it possesses a Bordeaux-like weight. Give it 2-3 years of cellaring and drink it over the following 10-15. Drink 2009 – 2024*

94 Points

Events:

Denver Restaurant week is in full swing

What has quickly become an annual highlight for many foodies around Denver is back. Here only for a few more days until February 29. This year we have 165 restaurants participating. The mile high price \$52.80 for 2, will get you a fine meal at some of Denver's best restaurants. Details : <http://www.denver.org/denverrestaurant/>

Did you know :

I am often asked questions about WINEPAIRINGS -under this new heading I will insert some tidbits and information to help you know us better.

Today: Our company has been around for 5 years now, (Valentine day marked our 5 year anniversary) and the e-newsletter was started during our 2nd year of operation, in response to request for good wines for personal enjoyment from some of our clients...

Thanks again for all your support and referrals, tell your friends, Cheers ! Paul David, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

WINEPAIRINGS

- Your wine concierge service. Contact us for all your Wine needs.

For more info: www.winepairings.biz Reach us at: tel 303-331-8008

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All orders are sold and shipped by a licensed Colorado wine retailer. Title passes to you, the buyer, in Colorado.

The buyer is solely responsible for the shipment of wine. We make no representations concerning your legal right to ship or receive wine into any state outside Colorado or any country outside the United States. By placing any wine order with us, you authorize Winepairings to act on your behalf to engage a common carrier to deliver your order to your selected destination.

Please note that **you must be at least 21 years old** to order or receive alcohol from this newsletter. All orders require the signature of a person at least 21 years of age.