



LARK CREEK STEAK

visiting san francisco means visiting the wine country—you're surrounded. to the north are Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino; to the east lie Livermore Valley and the Sierra Foothills; heading south are the Santa Cruz Mountains, Monterey and the Central Coast. each appellation is unique, possessing its own personality and strength with respect to the grapes grown and the styles of wines produced. however, each has a common bond: quality.

top quality wine represents a partnership between the grape grower and wine maker. sometimes they are the same people, but it is more common today for each to be a specialist. wines of extraordinary concentration and depth are more commonly produced these days thanks to aggressive vineyard management. many grape growers have turned, or rather returned, to organic viticultural practices. without pesticides, herbicides and synthetic fertilizers farmers are producing healthier grapes whose flavors truly express their terroir. while only a small number of domestic vineyards are *certified* organic, all growers are committed to practicing some degree of sustainable agriculture and organic viticulture.

at LarkCreekSteak we focus on the best farm to table ingredients. of course we pay a little extra attention to steaks and chops. with this in mind we've collected an exciting range of great american wine, including some old favorites, new discoveries and special values.

Brian Newman
Wine Manager



TABLE OF CONTENTS

wine by the glass	1
half bottles & magnums.....	3
sparkling wine	5

WHITE WINE

lighter style & aromatic white	6
sauvignon blanc	8
chardonnay	9

RED WINE

pinot noir	11
red varieties	13
rhone variety	13
merlot	16
zinfandel	17
cabernet franc	19
cabernet sauvignon & blends	19

MORE...

dessert wine	23
--------------------	----

BY THE GLASS

Our wine by the glass selections have been chosen to offer a variety of styles and flavors in the hope that you can find a wine that appeals to you. Within each broad category, we have arranged the wines in a general progression of weight, intensity and complexity from lightest to fullest in body and flavor. As you read down through the selections expect the wines to be fuller and more intensely flavored, complex and full bodied.

CORKAGE

we would be happy to open and serve any wine you have brought with you to the restaurant and for each bottle purchased from our wine list we will waive the corkage fee on a bottle you have brought with you.

Our corkage fee is \$20 per 750 ml.

Sparkling

	<i>glass</i>
<i>Sparkling, Gloria Ferrer Brut, Sonoma NV</i>	8.25
<i>Sparkling, Domaine Chandon Brut Rose, Napa NV</i>	10.00
<i>Sparkling, Iron Horse, Classic Vinatge Brut, Sonoma Green Valley 2005</i>	10.75

White

<i>Dry Riesling, Esterlina, Cole Ranch, Cole Valley 2008</i>	9.50
<i>Viognier, Bridlewood, Reserve, Central Coast 2007</i>	10.50
<i>Pinot Gris, Chehalem, Willamette Valley 2009</i>	10.75
<i>Sauvignon Blanc, Provenance Vineyards, Napa Valley 2009</i>	11.00
<i>Sauvignon Blanc, Justin, Paso Robles 2009</i>	9.50
<i>Rose, Lucia, "Lucy", Santa Lucia Highlands 2009</i>	9.50
<i>Chardonnay, Hess, Shirtail Creek, Monterey County 2009</i>	9.50
<i>Chardonnay, Melville, Estate-Verna's, Santa Barbara County 2008</i>	11.50
<i>Chardonnay, Maldonado Family, Parr Vineyard Sonoma County 2007</i>	14.50

BY THE GLASS (CONTINUED)

Red

<i>Pinot Noir</i> , Laguna Ridge by Lynmar, Sonoma Coast 2006	13.00
<i>Pinot Noir</i> , Cambria, Julia's Vineyard Santa Maria Valley 2007	14.50
<i>Pinot Noir</i> , Handley, Anderson Valley 2007	15.50
<i>Syrah</i> , Old Press, Paso Robles 2006	8.75
<i>Merlot</i> , Benziger, Sonoma County 2006	9.50
<i>Merlot</i> , St. Clement, Napa Valley 2007	14.50
<i>Zinfandel</i> , Steele Wines Inc., Pacini Vineyard Old Vine, Mendocino County 2007	12.00
<i>Zinfandel</i> , Frog's Leap, Napa Valley 2007	14.00
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Louis Martini, Sonoma County 2008	8.50
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Ehlers Estate, One Twenty over Eighty Napa Valley 2007	14.00
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon Blend</i> , Tournesol Napa Valley 2004	16.00
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon Blend</i> , Ridge, Santa Cruz Mountains Estate Santa Cruz Mountains 2006	18.00

Dessert

<i>Gewurztraminer Ice Wine</i> , Andrew Rich, Washington-Oregon 2007	13.00
<i>Orange Muscat</i> , Quady "Essensia," California 2007	7.50

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Start with Conundrum and then move to Lang and Reed Cabernet Franc. Conundrum is a blended white wine that consists primarily of sauvignon blanc, chardonnay and muscat canelli. The folks at Conundrum also admit to adding viognier and Semillon. They won't tell you exactly what else or what the blend is-but who cares? The wine is refreshing and different; with a rich texture, peach and vanilla aromas and sufficient acidity to ensure a second sip (or a second glass). Cabernet franc is supposed to be softer than its cousin, cabernet sauvignon, which is the grape you're supposed to grow in Napa Valley. Their cabernet franc features a mix of red and black fruit flavors with chocolate overtones and balanced oak tones and tannin. It is a nice departure from cabernet sauvignon, but still great with a steak.

HALF BOTTLES

half bottles are a great way to pair wine with food and provide a reasonable way to begin with a lighter wine and then move into something more substantial.

Sparkling

- Sparkling*, Gruet Blanc de Noirs, New Mexico, NV 22
- Sparkling*, Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs, Napa Valley 2006 44

White

- White Table Wine*, Conundrum, California 2007 31
- Viognier*, Seps/Storybook Estate, Napa Valley 2008 40
- Pinot Gris*, King Estate, Oregon 2008 22
- Sauvignon Blanc*, Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2009 29
- Sauvignon Blanc*, Mason, Napa Valley 2008 19
- Sauvignon Blanc*, Merry Edwards, Russian River Valley 2009 37
- Chardonnay*, Grgich Hills, Napa Valley 2007 40
- Chardonnay*, Lynmar, Quail Hill, Russian River Valley 2006 48
- Chardonnay*, Matanzas Creek, Sonoma County 2006 34

Red

- Pinot Noir*, Cambria, Julia's, Santa Maria Valley 2007 32
- Pinot Noir*, Domaine Serene, Willamette Valley, Evenstad Reserve 2006 70
- Pinot Noir*, Lucia, Santa Lucia Highlands 2008 45
- Rhone Style Blend*, Bonny Doon Le Cigare Volant, California 2004 35

HALF BOTTLES CONTINUED

<i>Merlot</i> , Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2007	56
<i>Syrah</i> , Copain, Thompson Vineyard, Santa Ynez Valley 2005	50
<i>Syrah</i> , McCrea Cellars, Yakima Valley 2008	35
<i>Syrah</i> , Novy, Santa Lucia Highlands 2007	37
<i>Zinfandel</i> , D-Cubed, Napa Valley 2006	32
<i>Zinfandel Blend</i> , Ridge, Geyserville, Dry Creek Valley 2006 <i>FW</i>	43
<i>Zinfandel</i> , Storybook Mountain Vineyards, Mayacamas Range Napa Valley 2007	37
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , A.Rafanelli, Dry Creek Valley 2007	47
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2006	70
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Crocker and Starr, Napa Valley 2006	68
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Grgich Hills, Napa Valley 2006	56
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon Blend</i> , Ramey, Claret Napa Valley 2007	43
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon Blend</i> , Ridge Red, Santa Cruz Mountains 2007 <i>FW</i>	47

MAGNUMS

<i>Chardonnay</i> , Matanzas Creek, Bennett Valley 2005	120
<i>Chardonnay</i> , Patz and Hall, Dutton Ranch 2006	160
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Stardust, Napa Valley 2006	296
<i>Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Stardust, Napa Valley 2007	296

it is pretty easy these days to have a wine labeled for you. it is a different matter altogether to have one made especially for you. and really rare to have a sparkling wine made for you, because the commitment in time on the part of the winery is difficult to justify. Lark Creek Cuvee is an exception. We have been working with the Sterling family at Iron Horse since 1989 to develop this unique sparkling wine produced expressly for Lark Creek. over the years we have worked very closely with the Iron Horse team, developing and evolving our special blend. it all begins with a base wine of 2000 Iron Horse Brut, to which is added our special dosage. The resulting wine possesses crisp apple and citrus fruit flavors, it finishes with richness, elegance and complexity. we think it is the perfect way to begin your dining experience.

SPARKLING WINE

once upon a time the quality of california sparkling wines lagged far behind champagne. champagne was the gold standard and california sparkling did not merit a lot of attention. oddly, the champagne producers themselves signalled a change of heart when they bought up a great deal of california vineyard land and established "outposts" here. these days, no one apologizes for the quality of california sparkling wine, though we can understand the need to apologize for the *price* of champagne.

sparkling wine often represents the best value on a wine list. just think about the commitment in time and skill required to produce even an indifferent bottle—not to mention the great ones we've found. we've assembled a collection that spans from the every day to the really special. think of your favorite champagne *tefe de cuvee* and we think we have an american answer for it.

Gloria Ferrer Brut, Sonoma NV		36
Gloria Ferrer Brut Rose, Sonoma 2005		69
Gruet Blanc de Noir, New Mexico NV	375 ml	22
Iron Horse Classic Vintage Brut, Sonoma County Green Valley 2005		53
Roederer Estate Brut, Anderson Valley NV		50
Roederer Estate Brut Rose, Anderson Valley NV		60
Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs, Napa Valley 2006	375 ml	44
Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs, Napa Valley 2006		78

AROMATIC WHITE

White Varieties

Albarino, Havens, Carneros 2007

55

Chenin Blanc-Viognier, Pine Ridge, Clarksburg 2008

33

Dry Muscat Canelli, La Sirena Moscato Azul,
Napa Valley 2007

61

Gewurztraminer, Stony Hill, Napa Valley 2006

44

Riesling

Chateau Ste Michelle "Eroica," Columbia Valley 2008

53

Esterlina, Dry, Cole Ranch, Cole Valley 2008

38

Trefethen, Dry, Napa Valley 2007

47

Pinot Gris

Chehalem, Willamette Valley 2009

41

Sineann, Oregon 2009

38

Pinot Blanc

Elk Cove Vineyards, Willamette Valley 2007

39

St Innocent, Willamette Valley, Freedom Hill 2007

51

Riesling: floral, plum, peach aromas, body can be substantial, tantalizing "other" aromas can develop, like famous *gout de petrol*. And no, that's not bad.

Pinot gris: pinot noir clone, sheds acidity when ripe, picked early makes a crisp wine with subtle aromatics.

Pinot blanc: pinot gris clone, often made like chardonnay, which it can resemble from vineyard to glass.

Chenin blanc: surprisingly, one of the most widely planted varietals in California. Can make an uninteresting wine, but we don't sell those.

Viognier: popularity benefits from the "Anything But Chardonnay" phenomenon – reaction to an overabundance of similar, expensive chardonnays. Hard to grow, can make a wine with weight and exotic floral aromas.

Marsanne: low acidity and round mouth feel, subtle citrus or floral aroma.

Roussane: high acidity, subtle floral and herb tea aromas, generally oak aged.

Muscat Canelli: intense aroma marks muscat grapes, grown for wine and table use.

Rhone Varieties

Viognier, Bridlewood, Reserve, Central Coast 2007 40

Viognier, Seps/Storybook Estate, Napa Valley 2008 375ml 40

White Rhone Style Blend,
Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc,
Paso Robles 2006 90

Roussanne, Qupe, Santa Maria Valley,
Bien Nacido Hillside Estate 2004 *EW+* 82

Rose

Lucia, "Lucy", Santa Lucia Highlands 2009 38

SAUVIGNON BLANC

Beringer, Napa Valley 2007		34
Cakebread, Napa Valley 2008		48
Cliff Lede, Napa Valley 2006		50
Crocker & Starr, Napa Valley 2006		58
Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2009	375 ml	29
Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2009		56
Gary Farrell, Sonoma County Redwood Ranch 2007		51
Geyser Peak Winery, Russian River Valley, River Road Ranch 2007		52
Justin, Paso Robles 2009		38
Mason, Napa Valley 2008	375 ml	19
Mason, Napa Valley 2007		34
Matanzas Creek, Sonoma County 2008		51
Merry Edwards, Russian River Valley 2009	375 ml	37
Provenance Vineyards, Napa Valley 2009		48
Saracina, Mendocino County 2005		49

SAUVIGNON BLANC

It's my favorite white wine varietal—I like the over-the-top grassy style that's today's popular alternative to yesterday's make-it-like-chardonnay version.

Mason, Merry Edwards and **Cliff Lede** all offer that convertible-top-down-on-a-warm-day sort of appeal—it may not be a wine you want to curl up and write and opera about, but the bottle sure gets finished fast. If you're looking for a more "adult" experience try the **Gary Farrell**—the same youthful exuberance is lurking just beneath a cloak of toasty oak and a more rich texture.

Quinn McKenna

CHARDONNAY I

If Chardonnay were a woman she'd have an extraordinarily eclectic wardrobe: restrained to racy. Her moods would range from flirtatious and fun to serious and focused. In other words Chardonnay is not one-dimensional, but rather it is a captivating, multi-faceted, and often surprising variety. Chardonnay's stylistic diversity originates in the vineyard. Chardonnay is planted as far north as Washington state and as far south as sunny Santa Barbara. Typically an early ripening variety, Chardonnay can be subtle and compelling when cultivated in cooler vineyard sites. Though when cultivated in warmer regions Chardonnay will be bold, ripe, and showy. Diversity of terroir is only half the story when it comes to producing Chardonnay.

CHARDONNAY

<i>4K</i>	Argyle, Willamette Valley 2007	58
<i>13A</i>	Brogan Cellars, Alexander Valley, Stuhlmuller Vineyard 2005	96
<i>5P</i>	Cakebread Cellars, Napa Valley 2008	94
<i>5A</i>	Calera, Central Coast 2008	40
<i>3P</i>	Chateau St. Jean, Robert Young Vineyard Alexander Valley 2008	58
<i>6A</i>	Chehalem, Inox, Willamette Valley 2008	38
<i>7K</i>	Dehlinger Estate, Russian River Valley 2006	76
<i>2A</i>	Domaine Drouhin "Arthur," Oregon 2007	66
<i>8P</i>	Etude, Carneros 2008	58
<i>2K</i>	Far Niente, Napa Valley 2006	111
<i>9P</i>	Ferrari Carano, Alexander Valley 2007	68
<i>5K</i>	Frank Family, Napa Valley 2008	64
<i>8F</i>	Grgich Hills, Napa Valley 2007	94
<i>4A</i>	Hess, Shirttail Creek Vineyard, Monterey County 2009	36

CHARDONNAY CONTINUED

3K	Kistler, "Les Noisetiers", Sonoma Mountain 2007		98
6I	Lolonis, Redwood Valley 2006		34
6K	Lynmar, Russian River Valley 2006		63
	Maldonado Family, Sonoma County, Parr Vineyard 2007		58
9K	Matanzas Creek, Sonoma County 2007		58
	Matanzas Creek, Sonoma County 2005	1.5 l	120
	Melville, Estate-Verna's, Santa Barbara County 2008		41
	Patz and Hall, Dutton Ranch, Russian River Valley 2006	1.5 l	160
4F	Peay, Sonoma Coast 2005		90
8A	Saintsbury, Unfiltered, Carneros 2008		45
8K	Sedna, Napa Valley 2005		46
2P	Stony Hill, Napa Valley 2006		74
3F	Tandem, Russian River Valley, Ritchie Vineyard 2006		58
4D	Testarossa, Chalone, Brousseau Vineyard 2004		78

CHARDONNAY II

Decisions made in the winery are as important as the cultivation of the fruit when it comes to producing not only a fine wine that expresses its terroir, but a stylistically distinctive wine that expresses the artisanship of the winemaker. The old adage 'great wine comes from great fruit' certainly pertains as much to Chardonnay as it does to other varieties. Chardonnay producers in particular use a wide array of winemaking practices in order to influence the style of the resulting wine. For instance, the use of oak barrels both in the fermentation and aging of Chardonnay can, when used judiciously, add pleasant notes of toast, vanilla, caramel and a variety of other aromatic cooking spices. Some winemakers choose not to use oak at all, allowing the purity of the fruit to express itself in the resulting wine. Here at Lark Creek Steak we offer a stylistically diverse Chardonnay selection. The bond they all share, regardless of whether they are stylistically restrained or racy, is balance.

PINOT NOIR

Sense of place: pinot noir reflect where it is grown more than other varietals. You'll notice a number of place names that keep popping up among our listing of pinot noirs: a dozen from Russian River Valley, half dozen from Sonoma Coast, three from Santa Rita Hills, and three from Anderson Valley. That's not some sort of ranking, but it is an indication that this grape flourishes in particular places. It likes the weather to be cool, particularly at night. Each of these appellations gets a nightly blanket of cold fog. Cool nights preserve acidity in the grape while cool climate overall allows the grapes to mature slowly. Additionally pinot noir (like most wine grapes) likes well drained soil with low fertility- mountain soil.

PINOT NOIR

<i>12D</i>	Acacia, Napa Valley, Carneros 2007		46
<i>29A</i>	Archery Summit, Premier Cuvee, Willamette Valley 2007		86
<i>29F</i>	August West, Santa Lucia Highlands, Rosella's Vineyard 2007		86
<i>13K</i>	Bergstrom, Cumberland Reserve, Willamette Valley 2008		72
<i>B1R</i>	Brickhouse Vineyards, Willamette Valley, Ribbon Ridge, Les Dijonnais 2008		98
<i>28P</i>	Brogan Cellars, Anderson Valley Morning Dew Ranch 2007		84
<i>17A</i>	Cambria, Julia's Vineyard, Santa Maria Valley 2007		58
<i>2F</i>	Carabella, Willamette Valley 2006		68
<i>B3R</i>	Cargasacchi Vineyard, Santa Barbara County Cargasacchi-Jalama Vineyard 2005		82
<i>12P</i>	Chehalem, Three Vineyard, Willamette Valley 2007		52
<i>17F</i>	Dehlinger, Russian River Valley, Goldridge Vineyard 2007		92
<i>23K</i>	Domaine Drouhin, Willamette Valley 2007		86
<i>10P</i>	Domaine Serene, Willamette Valley, Evenstad Vineyard 2006	375 ml	70
<i>14F</i>	Domaine Serene, Willamette Valley, Evenstad Vineyard 2006		115
<i>29K</i>	Domaine Serene, Willamette Valley, Jerusalem Hill Vineyard 2006		135
<i>19I</i>	Etude, Carneros 2007		86
<i>15K</i>	Evesham Wood, Le Grive Blue, Willamette Valley 2008		68

PINOT NOIR CONTINUED

17K	Flowers, Sonoma Coast 2008		88
	Handley, Anderson Valley 2007		60
16F	Hirsch Vineyards, San Andreas, Sonoma Coast 2007		118
C3L	Kazmer and Blaise, Primo's Hill, Carneros 2005		98
	Laguna Ridge by Lynmar, Sonoma Coast 2006		54
12A	Littorai, Hirsch Vineyard, Sonoma Coast 2006		126
1F	Lucia, Santa Lucia Highlands 2008	375 ml	45
22P	Lucia, Santa Lucia Highlands, Garys Vineyard 2007		102
15P	Merry Edwards, Sonoma Coast 2007		75
19D	Roessler Cellars, Sanford & Benedict Santa Rita Hills 2005		102
16A	Sandler Wine Company, Sonoma Coast 2006		61
19P	Sea Smoke, Southing, Santa Rita Hills, Santa Barbara County 2007		150
27F	Shea Wine Cellars, Estate, Willamette Valley 2008		82
24F	Sineann, Schindler Vineyard, Willamette Valley 2008		86
27A	Summerland, Santa Maria Valley, "Solomon Hills Vineyard" 2008		68
27K	Tandem, Auction Block, Sonoma County 2006		50
5F	Willakenzie Estate, Estate Cuvee, Willamette Valley 2008		68

MERRY EDWARDS

She was tapped as a rising star at an early age when she was named winemaker at **Mount Eden Vineyards** in 1974. She relocated to Sonoma and continued to build her reputation at **Matanzas Creek Winery**. In 1997 she went out on her own, founding Merry Edwards Wines, specializing in single vineyard pinot noirs from Sonoma's Russian River Valley (though she makes a dynamite sauvignon blanc too). Merry makes wines that are unique to their vineyard but have a consistent unctuous, extracted richness. Her style emphasizes fruit but without turning the wines into one-dimensional caricatures. Each wine has great acidity, structure and she uses a variety of oak barrels like blending spice. Sadly, my favorite vineyard, **Windsor Gardens**, was pulled out and is now a housing development (people, get your priorities straight!). I've found a ready substitute in **Klopp Ranch**.
Quinn McKenna

Pinot Meunier: another clone of pinot noir. Grown for use in sparkling wine; good acidity, pinot noir character but less of it.

Sangiovese: the grape responsible for Chianti; the most heavily planted grape in Italy. Can make a high acid wine, can be tough to grow, may not yet have achieved its best here (yet), but don't count it out.

Carignane: the Kudzu vine of grapes, can produce 12 tons of grapes per acre (3-4 times most other varietals). Most widely planted grape in France-which may explain why much inexpensive French wine is undistinguished.

Barbera: if you keep it pruned it can produce a nice wine, with bright acidity and currant/blueberry aromas. Handles oak well.

Rhone Blends: Generally refer to blends of mourvedre, grenache and syrah-the three major red grapes of the Rhone Valley in France. Think of mourvedre for spice and gamey-ness, Grenache for vibrant fruity aromas and soft mouth-feel and syrah for depth, texture and body.

Petite Sirah: deep color, jammy aroma, firm tannins.

RED VARIETIES

18I	<i>Barbera</i> , Scott Harvey, J&S Reserve, Amador County 2006	56
14K	<i>Malbec/Cab Sav/Merlot/Cab Franc</i> , Hendry, Red Wine Napa Valley 2005	72
16K	<i>Merlot/Cab Sav/Cab Franc/Petit Verdot</i> , Cain Cuvee Napa Valley NV6	68
7P	<i>Merlot/Syrah/Cabernet Sauvignon</i> , Sineann Columbia Valley 2003	48
13I	<i>Pinot Meunier</i> , Domaine Chandon, Carneros 2007	46
14P	<i>Sangiovese</i> , Palmina, "Undici" Santa Ynez Valley 2006	74
17N	<i>Tempranillo</i> , Verdad, Santa Ynez Valley 2007 <i>FW</i>	42

RHONE VARIETIES

Blends

2I	Bonny Doon Le Cigare Volant, California 2004	62
22A	Copain, "Les Copains" James Berry, Paso Robles 2006	82
9F	Shafer "Relentless," Napa Valley 2005	130

Carignane

15I	Wild Hog, Dry Creek Valley, Saini Farms 2006	48
-----	--	----

Grenache

27P	Grey Stack Cellars, Dry Stack Vineyard Bennett Valley 2006	66
-----	--	----

Mourvedre

7I	Jade Mountain, Evangelho Vineyard, Contra Costa County 2006	35
19A	Tablas Creek, Paso Robles 2006	72

Petite Sirah

3I	Concannon, Limited Release, Central Coast 2006	40
13N	Stags' Leap, Napa Valley 2007	79

Syrah

A6R	August West, Santa Lucia Highlands, Rosella's Vineyard 2007		72
21K	Copain, Santa Ynez Valley, Thompson Vineyard 2005	375ml	50
28F	Copain, Mendocino County, Tous Ensemble 2007		42

Featured Winemaker / Robert Lindquist

Bob Lindquist brings a passionate interest to several things in his life. He is passionate about baseball, rock & roll and wine and as much as we also like baseball and rock & roll, it is Bob's passion for wine we are highlighting here.

Bob began his involvement with wine in the Santa Barbara-Central Coast region of California and there he has remained, continuing to build his reputation and renown as a winemaker of tremendous talent and passion. He founded **Qupe Winery** in the early eighties and largely influenced by the wines produced in France's Rhone region decided to focus his own winemaking on Rhone varieties. Currently there is an abundance of Rhone varieties grown in the Santa Barbara- Central Coast area but in the eighties miniscule amounts were planted, so include "pioneer" winemaker on Bob's resume as well. Bob has put all that experience to good use. Qupe produces a small amount of excellent chardonnay and the white Rhone varieties have evolved beyond the status of "hidden gems" to mainstream recognition, but it is the syrahs from Qupe that garner the most attention. Bob has worked hard to source, develop and nurture many superb grape sources throughout the Santa Barbara region, such as the Bien Nacido Vineyard, and it is these relationships coupled with Bobs winemaking skill that result in the many excellent single vineyard syrahs in the Qupe portfolio. We share Bob's passion for wine and feel fortunate to have a wide selection of Qupe wines for you to consider. Look for wines possessing tremendous flavor, balance and attention to place.

3A	Dehlinger, Estate, Russian River Valley 2006		92
A5L	Drew Family, Broken Leg Vineyard Mendocino Ridge 2007		72
24A	Havens, Napa Valley 2004		58

Syrah: In California the grape displays less of its "classic" peppery-ness and more soft round mouth-feel and lingering finish. The wine smells like black currant and blackberry with some cedar and licorice drifting through. When you are looking for a medium plus bodied red without the harsh tannins and acidity of many cabernets and with more structure than most pinot noir-a syrah is the wine to look for.

Qupe Syrah

The Bien Nacido

Hillside Estate is the premier syrah from Qupe, this very special hillside vineyard site produces wine of great depth, complexity and balance.

The Purisima Mountain syrah produced from a winery located in the Santa Ynez Valley results in wines that are typically spicy, aromatic, balanced and refreshing with well rounded tannin.

The Bien Nacido

Vineyard syrah or **Old Press** syrah, are sourced from a variety of vineyard sources throughout the Santa Barbara and Paso Robles regions. A lot to choose from!

Syrah continued

18K	Lucia, Santa Lucia Highlands, Susan's Hill 2007		82
20F	McCrea Cellars, Yakima Valley 2007	375ml	35
12K	Novy, Judge Family Vineyard, Bennett Valley 2006		70
A2L	Peay, "La Bruma", Sonoma Coast 2005		92
27D	Peay, "Les Titans", Sonoma Coast 2006		92
	Old Press, Paso Robles 2006 <i>FW</i>		33
C4L	Owen Roe, "Ex Umbris", Columbia Valley 2008		51
A6L	Qupe Wine Cellars, Santa Maria Valley, Bien Nacido Hillside Estate 2005 <i>FW</i>		92
22D	Qupe Wine Cellars, Santa Maria Valley, Bien Nacido Vineyard 2007 <i>FW</i>		61
22K	Qupe Wine Cellars, Santa Ynez Valley, Purisima Mountain Vineyard 2007 <i>FW</i>		72
18A	ROAR, Santa Lucia Highlands, Gary's Vineyard 2007		82
13D	Sedna, Napa Valley 2004		61

MERLOT

<i>C2M</i>	Amuse Bouche, Napa Valley 2004		480
<i>A2R</i>	Amuse Bouche, Napa Valley 2003		480
	Benziger, Sonoma County 2006		38
<i>20A</i>	Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2007	<i>375 ml</i>	56
<i>25A</i>	Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2007		103
<i>B5L</i>	Duckhorn, Napa Valley, Three Palms Vineyard 2006		155
<i>23A</i>	Havens, Napa Valley, Reserve 2004		68
<i>28A</i>	Hyde De Villaines, "Belle Cousine", Napa Valley 2004		116
<i>24P</i>	Jayson Red by Pahlmeyer, Napa Valley 2005		80
<i>13P</i>	Lewis, Napa Valley, 2005		135
<i>26A</i>	Miner, Napa Valley, Stagecoach Vineyard 2006		82
<i>16I</i>	Paradigm, Napa Valley, Oakville 2006		90
<i>14D</i>	Provenance, Napa Valley 2006		68
	St. Clement, Napa Valley 2007		56
<i>28A</i>	Swanson, Napa Valley, Oakville 2006		68
<i>29I</i>	Tristant Vineyards, Napa Valley 2006		110
<i>A5R</i>	Twomey, Napa Valley 2006		102

MERLOT

The once (all too) popular Merlot grape having suffered for its ubiquitousness, is now, thankfully, being planted with a more discerning interest in the quality (not quantity) of the resulting fruit. Merlot is an elegant variety that does produce some of the best, and most sought after, red wines in the world. Here in the United States the finest Merlots are produced throughout Napa Valley and in Washington State. In comparison to Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot tends to produce softer more fleshy wines. However many Merlot producers, notably those found in Washington state and in California's warmer environs, are making powerfully concentrated wines, that have wonderful weight and lushness on the palate. If you are one of the many who vowed against Merlot because of some unpleasant experiences of a decade or more ago then it is time for you to revisit the Merlots of today. So drink Merlot and enjoy!

ZINFANDEL

<i>12N</i>	A.Rafanelli, Dry Creek Valley 2007		67
<i>30N</i>	D-Cubed, Napa Valley 2006	<i>375 ml</i>	32
<i>25F</i>	D-Cubed, Napa Valley 2006		56
<i>17N</i>	Elyse, Napa Valley, Korte Ranch 2006		61
<i>26F</i>	Frog's Leap, Napa Valley 2007		56
<i>24K</i>	Hendry, Block 28, Napa Valley 2005		61
<i>6F</i>	Mauritson, Dry Creek Valley 2007		56
<i>C5R</i>	Mauritson, Rockpile, Cemetery Vineyard 2006		82
<i>18F</i>	Nalle, Dry Creek Valley 2007		56
<i>4P</i>	Paradigm, Napa Valley 2006		72
	Ridge, Sonoma County, Geyserville 2006	<i>FW 375 ml</i>	43
<i>22F</i>	Ridge, Sonoma County, Geyserville 2007	<i>FW</i>	72
<i>23P</i>	Ridge, Dry Creek Valley, Lytton Springs 2007	<i>FW</i>	72
<i>B1L</i>	Sandler Wine Company, Dry Creek Valley 2006		61
	Steele Wines Inc, Old Vines Pacini Vineyard, Mendocino County 2007		50
<i>10K</i>	Storybook Estate, Mayacamas Range, Napa Valley 2007	<i>375 ml</i>	37
<i>C4R</i>	Storybook Estate, Eastern Exposures, Napa Valley 2006		92

ZINFANDEL CONTINUED

6P Turley Cellars, California,
Old Vines 2009

61

Featured Winemaker / Paul Draper

Paul Draper and the wines of **Ridge Vineyards** have been awarded and acknowledged both nationally and globally. Through his efforts to explore and expose the ability of both zinfandel and cabernet sauvignon to express a sense of place here in America, Paul Draper has successfully been able to produce wines that appeal to the palates on all sides of the Atlantic. Ridge Vineyards was one of the first to demonstrate zinfandels potential as a wine that could be considered on equal footing with some of the best wines produced worldwide. Ridge Vineyards has also produced the exceptionally long-lived and internationally recognized cabernet sauvignon from the Monte Bello vineyard.

The wines from Ridge Vineyards have had a resounding impact on my own personal interest in wine. What seems like many years ago, it was a visit to Ridge as a guest on a microbiology class field trip that I tasted Monte Bello cabernet sauvignon and my wine path was diverted. Some years later it was a tasting of the Ridge Geyserville that led me to appreciate how zinfandel could be considered on a similar level to other fine and long established varieties.

Paul Draper has long been an advocate of the importance of terrior, a concept that is largely overlooked and from an American viticultural perspective largely dismissed. The wines of Ridge Vineyards make an overwhelming argument for a sense of place. The wines can be deep, concentrated with tremendous fruit character, great balance and a defined sense of place.

AIR Valdez, Russian River Valley,
Lancel Creek Vineyard 2006

74

CABERNET FRANC

28K Cadence, Bel Canto, Red Mountain, WA 2005 123

18S Lang & Reed "Premier Etage" ,Napa Valley 2004 72

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

A4R A.Rafanelli, Dry Creek Valley 2007 86

25D Alexander Valley Vineyards, Alexander Valley 2008 44

A5M Arns, Napa Valley 2004 92

A2L Barbour Vineyards, Napa Valley 2003 225

B4M Beaulieu Vineyard, Private Reserve, Napa Valley,
Georges de Latour 2006 180

C1L Beringer, Private Reserve, Napa Valley 2005 200

A6M Beringer, Private Reserve, Napa Valley 2006 194

B3M Bryant Family Vineyards, Napa Valley 2002 700

24D Caymus Vineyards, Napa Valley 2008 135

B4R Cedar Knoll Vineyard Co. by Palmaz Vineyards
Napa Valley 2006 86

25N Chateau Souverain, Alexander Valley 2006 51

C6L Continuum, Napa Valley 2006 226

20P Crocker and Starr, Napa Valley 2006 375ml 68

C2R Crocker and Starr, Napa Valley 2007 158

A3M Darioush, Caravan, Napa Valley 2007 83

7F Dehlinger, Estate, Russian River Valley 2005 102

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

CONTINUED

<i>B5M</i>	Dominus Estate, Napa Valley 2006		200
<i>21A</i>	Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2007	<i>375ml</i>	70
<i>12F</i>	Duckhorn, Napa Valley 2007		122
<i>C3R</i>	Far Niente, Napa Valley, Oakville 2007		200
	Ehlers Estate, One Twenty Over Eighty, Napa Valley 2007		60
<i>9A</i>	Elizabeth Spencer, Special Cuvee, Napa Valley 2007		74
<i>22N</i>	Franciscan, Napa Valley 2006		65
<i>23F</i>	Freemark Abbey, Napa Valley 2007		82
<i>B2R</i>	Gargiulo Vineyards, Napa Valley, Money Road Ranch, Oakville 2005		154
<i>11K</i>	Grgich Hills, Napa Valley 2006	<i>375ml</i>	56
<i>A3L</i>	Grgich Hills, Napa Valley 2006		98
<i>15F</i>	Groth, Napa Valley, Oakville 2006		114
<i>27N</i>	Havens, Napa Valley 2006		60
<i>15A</i>	Hess, Napa Valley, Allomi Vineyard 2007		58
<i>17P</i>	Joseph Phelps Vineyards, Napa Valley 2006		108
<i>B6M</i>	Kendall Jackson, Highland Estates, Hawkeye Mountain, Alexander Valley 2005		98
<i>17I</i>	La Jota Vineyard Co., Napa Valley, Howell Mtn. 2006		100
<i>19K</i>	La Jota Vineyard Co., Napa Valley, Porcini Hill 2003		87
<i>C1R</i>	Ladera, Napa Valley 2006		83

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

CONTINUED

<i>B2L</i>	Larkmead Vineyards, Napa Valley 2007		118
<i>B3L</i>	Lewis, Napa Valley 2007		148
<i>19S</i>	Long Meadow Ranch, Napa Valley 2004		86
<i>29D</i>	Louis Martini, Reserve, Alexander Valley, 2006		70
	Louis Martini, Sonoma County 2008		32
<i>B6L</i>	Marston, Napa Valley, Spring Mountain District 2006		165
<i>13F</i>	Narsai David, "Cuvee Venus", Napa Valley 2004		75
<i>24I</i>	Newton, Unfiltered, Napa Valley 2006		84
<i>A4L</i>	Outpost, Napa Valley, Howell Mountain 2006		122
<i>C5L</i>	Paul Hobbs, Napa Valley 2006		143
<i>B1M</i>	Paradigm, Napa Valley, Oakville 2006		118
<i>A1M</i>	Pine Ridge, Fortis, Napa Valley 2004		216
<i>20K</i>	Ramey, Napa Valley, Claret 2007	375 ml	43
<i>C1M</i>	Ramey, Larkmead Vineyard, Napa Valley 2006		118
<i>A1L</i>	Revana, Napa Valley 2005		200
<i>30A</i>	Ridge Vineyards, Estate, Santa Cruz Mountains 2007 <i>FW</i>	375 ml	47
<i>7N</i>	Ridge Vineyards, Estate, Santa Cruz Mountains 2006 <i>FW</i>		72
<i>B2M</i>	Ridge, Monte Bello, Santa Cruz Mountains 2005 <i>FW</i>		250

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

CONTINUED

<i>C4M</i>	Rubicon Estate, Cask, Napa Valley 2006		144
<i>C5M</i>	Sequoia Grove, Napa Valley 2006		72
<i>B4L</i>	Seven Stones, Napa Valley 2006		280
<i>26P</i>	Showket Vineyards, Napa Valley, Oakville 2005		148
<i>14A</i>	Signorello, Napa Valley 2004		88
<i>29P</i>	Sineann, Sugarloaf Mountain, Napa Valley 2006		86
<i>25P</i>	Silver Oak, Alexander Valley 2005		126
<i>B5R</i>	Silver Oak, Napa Valley 2005		165
<i>16P</i>	Spottswoode, Napa Valley 2006		196
<i>C3M</i>	Stardust, Napa Valley 2006		127
<i>26K</i>	Stardust, Napa Valley 2007		127
	Stardust, Napa Valley 2006	<i>1.5 l</i>	296
	Stardust, Napa Valley 2007	<i>1.5 l</i>	296
<i>A3R</i>	Terra Valentine, Napa Valley, Spring Mountain District 2006		86
	Tornesol, Proprietor's Blend, Napa Valley 2004		68

Bonny Doon Recioto of Barbera- the sweeter side of blackberry and cassis, this one is seriously good.

Dolce made from the presence of a special type of fungus called the "noble rot". This "noble rot" doesn't occur every vintage, so some years this wine won't be produced. The idea of rotten grapes sounds terrible and the resulting grapes look pretty terrible but this fungus has a unique way of making wines that are rich, deeply flavored and balanced. The best sweet wines made worldwide are a result of "noble rot." **Dolce** possesses honey-suckle, melon and dried apricot flavors and a silky texture. This is a special wine.

McCrea Roussanne-very small production. Full of pears with hints of coconut.

Quady Essensia-bright, fresh flavors of orange blossom and apricot.

DESSERT

Most of us like things that taste sweet. Sweet wine was at one time the universally preferred style for all wine and many a wine aficionado have cut their wine teeth on sweeter styles of wine. Today the truly great sweet wines are intended for drinking as an accompaniment to dessert or as simply dessert itself. The majority of dessert style wines are produced in very small quantities, produced with varying techniques but all sharing the wish for similar results, concentrated sugar, intensity, and complexity. The resulting wine styles can be fresh and fruity, honeyed and richly textured, profound and complex and can be some of the most sought after and long-lived wines produced anywhere.

Andrew Rich Gewurztraminer, Ice Wine, Washington-Oregon 2007 (375 ml)	50
Bonny Doon Vineyard Recioto of Barbera, Monterey County 2004 (500 ml)	52
Dolce, Napa Valley 2005 (375 ml)	148
McCrea Late Harvest Roussanne, Columbia Valley 2003 (375 ml)	46
Quady Essensia Orange Muscat, California 2007 (375 ml)	32

