

VINTNERS CLUB

a California non-profit public-benefit corporation
(founded in 1971)

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TASTING #1,489: Splendid Red Wines from the Rhône Valley alongside their California Counterparts

6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 18

VENUE: Metropolitan Club, 640 Sutter Street (between Taylor and Mason), San Francisco

The Rhône wine region of southeast France is divided into two sub-regions, each with its own distinct viticultural traditions and climatic nuances. The northern sub-region produces red wines predominantly from the Syrah grape; the southern sub-region is renowned for its blends containing up to 21 varieties of wine grapes, both red and white.

At our next blind-tasting, we will compare the "current releases" of **12** of the finest wines reflecting these two diverse styles, both from the Rhône Valley and from California. Their majesty and pleasure will come as no surprise to those who have heard 2007 lauded as the "vintage of a lifetime", and who know that some of these wines are virtually unobtainable even at prices of \$200/bottle:

- Canihan Family Wines, *Exuberance*, Sonoma Valley
- Chateau de Beaucastel, Chateauneuf-du-Pape, Rhône Valley
 - Colgin Cellars, IX Estate Syrah, Napa Valley
- Crozes-Hermitage, Cuvée Albéric Bouvet, Gilles Robin, Saint Joseph, Rhône Valley
 - IO Upper Bench Syrah, Santa Maria Valley
- J. Lohr *Gesture* Limited Release Grenache-Syrah-Mourvedre, Paos Robles
 - Rocca Family Vineyards Syrah, Yountville, Napa Valley
 - Shafer Vineyards, *Relentless*, Stags Leap District, Napa Valley
 - Stephan Vineyard, L'Aventure Côte-à-Côte Estate, Paso Robles
- Thomas Fogarty Winery, Fat Buck Ridge Vineyard Syrah, Santa Cruz Mountains
 - Wrath Wines, Doctor's Vineyard Syrah, Santa Lucia Highlands
 - *Selection of the 12th wine is being finalized*

12 Riedel crystal glasses for 12 exceptional wines. Elegant seating with white table-cloths.

ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE FOR THE TASTING: \$90/member/first-time guest of member and \$140/non-member for payment submitted by August 4. \$95/member/first-time guest of member and \$145/non-member thereafter.

TO RESERVE: Fax your Visa/Mastercard information to the Vintners Club at **(415) 381-4460**.

Deadline to cancel a reservation and be entitled to receive a refund is 10 a.m. on August 12.

OPTIONAL POST-TASTING DINNER will feature:

1989 Champagne Krug, Reims;

1998 Draycott Reserve Shiraz, Burge Family Winemakers, Barossa Valley, South Australia, en magnum;

1998 Astralis Shiraz, Clarendon Hills, Blewitt Springs (suburb of Adelaide), South Australia;

*2004 Syrah, Silkwood Wines, Stanislaus County (served in First Class on Japan Air Lines); AND
1969 Trockenbeerenauslese.*

Menu and price being finalized.