

Wine & Spirits



94 | Tablas Creek \$22

2005 Paso Robles Côtes de Tablas Blanc

This blend of viognier, roussanne, marsanne and grenache blanc is consistently one of Tablas Creek's most impressive wines; in 2005, it's a sumptuous white, a combination of mouthwatering richness with remarkably delicate and detailed aromas and flavors. The color is pale gold, mirrored in the scents of honey and the flavors of Chinese bitter melon. The aromas extend to dried flowers and pear as the wine expands with air, the austerity of the structure becoming a meatiness of fruit; balanced for braised veal shoulder.

90 | Tablas Creek \$27

2005 Paso Robles Roussanne The deep golden color predicts the rich, honeyed character of this wine. It has a lanolin richness, with sweet apple and white peach flavors rounded by alcohol and layered with drier tones of smoke and stony minerals. A bold wine for roasted game birds.

89 | Tablas Creek \$27

2005 Paso Robles Grenache Blanc Nutty at first, this gains more clarity with air, shifting from green spice toward white peach and pear. Alcohol lends warmth to the wine. Decant it for veal sausages.

88 | Tablas Creek \$45

2004 Paso Robles Esprit de Beaucastel

Sleek on the surface, rustic at its core, this blend of mourvèdre, syrah, grenache and Cunoise has a warm, sandy texture to its tannin. The sweet black raspberry flavor is a little baked, while the tannins need time to evolve.