

Los Angeles Times

17 September 2003

WINE OF THE WEEK

2001 TABLAS CREEK VINEYARD ESPRIT DE BEAUCASTEL BLANC, CALIFORNIA

“This is a stunning southern Rhône-style white made by the Perrin brothers, who own the famed Châteauneuf-du-Pape estate Château de Beaucastel. But his wine is made in Paso Robles, where the Perrins and their longtime importer, Robert Haas, own Tablas Creek Vineyard.

Lush and delicate, the 2001 Esprit de Beaucastel is a beguiling wine with a pale gold color, satiny texture and marvelous finish. It is minerally and floral, and has a scent of peaches and lavender. A blend of Roussanne, Viognier, Marsanne, and Grenache Blanc, it's the first of Tablas Creek Vineyard's whites to really taste like a Châteauneuf-du-Pape blanc.”

-- S. IRENE VIRBILA

Quick Swirl

Region: Paso Robles

Price: About \$25

Style: Lush and aromatic Rhône-style white

Food it goes with: Eggplant Provençal, heirloom tomato salads, summery soups, grilled fish and seafood

Where you find it: Beverage Warehouse in Marina del Rey (310) 306-2822; Friends of the Vine in Redondo Beach (310) 792-5940; Heritage Wine Co. in Pasadena (626) 844-9333; L.A. Wine Co. in Marina del Rey (310) 306-9463; the Wine Cask in Santa Barbara (805) 966-9463; and the Wine Club in Santa Ana (714) 835-6485

