

Jeb Dunnuck's 
THE RHONE REPORT

Issue #6, November 2010

Tablas Creek

Website: www.tablascreek.com

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2009 Tablas Creek Côtes de Tablas Blanc (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$25**

A blend of 45% Viognier, 28% Roussanne, 20% Marsanne, and 7% Grenache Blanc, the 2009 Tablas Creek Côtes de Tablas Blanc has fresh, clean aromatics of dusty minerals, citrus, juiced pear, and a whiff of white pepper that's intermixed with a serious thyme and sage streak. The fruit is front and center on the medium+ bodied palate and the wine displays a relatively ripe, round personality, plenty of texture, good acidity and a chalky, mineral-laced finish. Outstanding and a superb value for consuming over the next 2 to 3 years. **(90 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$40**

Impressive and a serious white, the 2009 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel is a blend of 62% Roussanne, 26% Grenache Blanc, and 12% Picpoul Blanc, that's aged in a combination of stainless steel, small barrels, and foudre. The nose boasts intense aromatics of pear and baked apple fruits, herbs, honeysuckle, and edgy, rocky minerality. Oozing extract and concentration on the palate, the wine is medium to full bodied with a serious, structured feel, beautiful balance, and a very long, clean finish. This is superb now, but should also age very well. **(94 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$40**

The most steely and fresh of the three Esprit Blancs, the 2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc (65% Roussanne, 30% Grenache blanc, and 5% Picpoul) delivers brilliant aromatics of citrus, pear, apricot, touches of honey, and solid underlying minerality. While edgy and pure, there's solid ripeness as well as depth. Medium+ bodied and perfectly balanced, this is shows an exceptional, focused texture, and a long, classy finish. I like the freshness here, and while delicious now, I think this will age well. **(93 pts.)**

2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$40**

The most fruit driven of the Esprit Blancs, with stunning purity and delineation, the 2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc is a blend of 68% Roussanne, 22% Grenache Blanc, and 10% Picpoul Blanc that was aged in a combination of stainless steel, oak barrel and foudre. It exhibits beautifully ripe peach, citrus, and lime like aromas that just jump from the glass. Touches of almond butter, thyme, and herb develop with air, and the wine shows riveting underlying minerality that offsets the fruit perfectly. Medium to full bodied with a lush, well-defined texture, awesome concentration, and a clean, very long finish, this stunning wine should perform beautifully over the next decade or more. **(94 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Grenache Blanc (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$30**

Delicious and easy drinking, the 2009 Tablas Creek Grenache Blanc has upfront, fruit driven aromatics of tropical fruits, peach, spice, and honeysuckle, medium body, and an off-dry, clean personality. The sweetness is balanced beautifully by racy acidity on the finish. Versatile and food friendly, I would consume these over the next handful of years. **(88 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Roussanne (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$30**

Richer and more powerful than the Bergeron, the 2009 Tablas Creek Roussanne is aged partly in stainless steel and partly in a mix of small and big barrels. Possessing a golden, green tinged color, as well as rich, full bouquet of candied lemon, flower oil, and subtly honeyed fruits, the wine is medium to full bodied with a round, lush texture and loads of fruit. It stays fresh and clean on the finish, and should drink well for 3 to 5 years, if not longer. **(89 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Roussanne Bergeron (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) **\$30**

Bergeron is the name of the Roussanne grape in the Savoie region of France, where it produces a lighter, more citrus and mineral driven wine as opposed to one of richness and power. The grapes for this bottling come from the coolest estate vineyards, are picked very early with low sugars and high acids, and then matured all in neutral wood. The 2009 Tablas Creek Roussanne Bergeron is a distinct departure from a typical Roussanne and delivers pretty, crisp aromatics of apple, and pear laced fruits that gain richness with air. Medium bodied and elegant on the palate, with a superb, silky texture, and fresh, mineral-laced finish, this is delicious now and will most likely have a solid decade of drinkability. **(91 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Rosé (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$27

A solid rose with loads of ripe cherry, spice, and rose petal aromatics, the 2009 Tablas Creek Rosé, a blend of 46% Mourvèdre, 39% Grenache, and 15% Counoise, is full and round on the palate, with a plump texture, ripe fruit, and a dry, clean finish. A fuller styled Rosé, this should be consumed over the next year or two. **(88 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Côtes de Tablas (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$25

A dead-ringer for a quality Côtes-du-Rhone, the 2008 Tablas Creek Côtes de Tablas is a blend of 42% Grenache, 21% Syrah, 20% Counoise, and 17% Mourvedre, that's aged for a year in large oak foudres. The wine is loaded with spice and kirsch like aromas that are supported by licorice, a touch of tapenade and garrigue. Medium bodied, this has a light, balanced texture, sweet fruit and a delicious, easy profile. Well done, and about as Southern Rhone as you're going to get from California, this outstanding red should be consumed over the coming 4 to 6 years. Tasted twice. **(90 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$50

A structured and downright tannic barrel sample, the 2009 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel is a blend of 40% Mourvedre, 28% Syrah, 27% Grenache, and 5% Cinsault, aged all in large foudre. It exhibits first-rate aromas of earthy dark fruits, tar, leather, and meaty notes that carry into a full bodied, dense, structured wine. This will most likely demand 3 to 5 years of bottle age, and then be very long lived. **(93-95 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$50

Slightly deceiving at first with a relatively light profile, the 2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel, a blend of 38% Mourvedre, 30% Grenache, 26% Syrah, and 6% Counoise, fleshes out beautifully with about an hour of air. It exhibits a downright Provençal nose of spiced red berries, pepper, garrigue and a touch of licorice and dried flowers. This leads to a medium bodied wine that has a light, deft texture, solid balance, sweet fruit and a long, classy finish. Already showing good complexity, this is a prime candidate for drinking over the next 8 to 10 years. Tasted twice. **(93 pts.)**

2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$50

Truly exceptional, and showing every bit as good as last year, the 2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel (44% Mourvèdre, 29% Grenache, 21% Syrah, and 6% Counoise) delivers awesome aromatics reminiscent of a top '07 Châteauneuf-du-Pape, showing pure blackberry, kirsch, licorice, incense, and herbed rubbed meaty notes. Dense, concentrated, and fantastically textured, this full bodied beauty should drink well for 10 to 15 years. **(96 pts.)**

2006 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$50

Easily the best bottle of this I've had, the 2006 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel is firing on all cylinders. Very aromatic, it displays layered, complex aromas of exotic spices, garrigue, roast beef, and touches of barnyard (hay, leather, etc.) that are all backed up by perfectly ripe fruit. Medium to full bodied with perfect balance, loads of texture, and a

very long finish, this should continue to drink well for another 8 to 10 years. **(94 pts.)**

2009 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$NA

A wine for patient consumers, the 2009 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie, a 60/30/10 mix of Mourvedre, Grenache, and Syrah, is amazingly dense and concentrated, possessing gorgeous dark fruits, flowers, spice, and earthy aromatics, full body, and a very structured, tannic frame. This should benefit from 3 to 5 years in the cellar and drink well for a decade or more after that. **(96-98 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$95

Spicy and perfumed, the 2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie is a blend of 54% Mourvèdre, 29% Grenache, and 17% Syrah. It possesses loads of exotic spice, flowers, and meaty notes that are intermixed with pretty, ripe red fruits. Medium to full bodied with a round, rich profile that firms up nicely on the finish, this should be consumed over the next decade. **(95 pts.)**

2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$95

Whereas the '08 is pretty, perfumed, and shows mostly red fruits, the awesomely structured 2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie (60% Mourvèdre, 30% Grenache, and 10% Syrah) shows meaty dark fruits, licorice, garrigue, graphite, and hot asphalt like aromas on the nose. Full bodied, deeply concentrated, and possessing a powerful, structured character, this shows fantastic length, and loads of ripe tannin on the finish. Just a spectacular wine that should easily drink well for 10 to 15 years. **(97 pts.)**

2006 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$95

The most evolved of Panoplie lineup, the 2006 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Panoplie, a blend of 68% Mourvèdre, 27% Grenache, and 5% Syrah, is starting to show secondary notes with spicy red fruits supported by toasted bread, exotic spice, flowers, and roasted meat. Soft and round on the palate, with sweet fruit, solid texture, and a classy, very long finish, this is drinking well, and I would consume bottles over the next 8 to 10 years. **(94 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Grenache (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$40

A textbook Grenache, the 2008 Tablas Creek Grenache (100% Grenache) delivers loads of spiced cherries, garrigue, minerals, and earthy, savory notes on the nose. Medium bodied and exhibiting a similar savory quality in the mouth, the wine shows great acidity, silky texture, and a chewy, dry finish. Enjoy this food friendly wine over the next 5 to 8 years. **(91 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Mourvedre (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$40

Surprisingly smooth and supple, the 2008 Tablas Creek Mourvedre, aged all in foudres, exhibits complex underbrush, Asian spice, forest floor, and bright red and black fruits on the nose. Savory and elegant, as opposed to sweet and powerful, the wine is medium bodied and light on the palate, carrying a deft, smooth texture, integrated acidity, and notable balance. The wine's structure comes out on the finish. Delicious, and very easy to drink, this should be consumed over the next 5 to 8 years. **(91 pts.)**

2008 Tablas Creek Syrah (USA, California, Central Coast, Paso Robles) \$40

As with this estate's other '08s, the 2008 Tablas Creek Syrah sports an lighter, rounder profile, with pretty aromatics of lavender, flowers, toasted spices, and mineral aromas that are mixed with blackberry and black cherry fruits. Medium bodied, supple, and with sweet fruit, this should be consumed over the next 5 years. **(89 pts.)**