



Your Source of Wine for Every Occasion

Notes From The Cellar "NFTC" Newsletter October 15, 2009

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NFTC exclusive: 95 Parker pointer from Central Coast- Under \$40 ! WOW

Did you know:

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\$\$\$ Today's Wine Deal \$\$\$

LUCIA Susan's Hill Syrah -Santa Lucia Highlands 2006 RP 95 points

**\$40/bottle, or \$38-/bottle- with our cash discount
(if you can find it expect \$60+)**

Today's wine is from the very successful 2006 vintage. In fact it is one of only 2 California Syrahs rated 95 Points for under \$40!

With the cooler weather this is the perfect time for a nice hearty red wine. The Central Coast of California holds enormous promise to rival Napa and Sonoma as one of the premier grape growing regions in the US. It has been a Mecca for Pinot Noir and the Rhone varietals. Over the past decade it has grown in leaps. It is also a region where some of the more exciting wines in the US are being produced both in terms of quality and value.

One of the most famous vineyards in this region is **the Pisoni vineyard**: if there was such a thing as an American Grand Cru vineyard this would be it. Names such as: Pats & Hall, Arcadian, Miner, Siduri, Testarossa are only a few of the more famous wineries who have made some of their best wines from fruit sourced here. The Lucia Susan's Hill is made by members of the Pisoni family -when you own the vineyard you can afford to get great fruit and keep the cost to a minimum. This wine is mostly shipped to restaurants -and since the economy has hit this



segment hard, there was a little wine which made it to my hands -with the highest rating ever, this was an easy call. This is a big dark extracted wine. Think Northern Rhone on steroids -what makes it special is unlike many examples of overdone Shiraz from warm climates (such as you often find in Australia and other warm climates) -the cool conditions in the Sta Lucia Highlands ensure natural acidity which keep this wine very well balanced and age worthy.

Here is **Robert Parker's** review (the other wine he refers to is the sibling made from another great vineyard the Garys -that one got 93 points. While both are excellent the Susan's featured here is the top dog) :

95 Points: *"The 2006 Syrah Susan's Hill. While similar to its sibling, it displays more complex aromas, with a stronger floral component, and meatiness and pepper. It boasts an amazing palate impression, full body, and a multidimensional, skyscraper-like feel in the mouth, yet remains light on its feet. This stunning Syrah should drink effortlessly for a decade or more. The Syrah from these two vineyards is generally harvested 30-40 days later than their Pinot Noir, which demonstrates the fascinating micro-climate this sector of the Santa Lucia Highlands enjoys. These are two outstanding Syrahs from one of the younger members of the Pisoni family."*

I purchased all there was -the wine is here but quantities are very limited please act fast.

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Unless you are in a "too big to fail" type business lavishly using tax payers \$ chances are it's hard to justify a big "to do" event in these economic times. Many of our corporate clients are opting to host more intimate events for their staff or good clients. Consider hosting a wine tasting -and yes we are here to help. The options are unlimited. If the budget is tight I can pre.- select a nice set of wines which you could self serve. If you would rather have me MC an official tasting and presentation that is always a nice option but in such a case please contact me soon as the calender is filling up. Of course I would be delighted to provide wine for all your holiday needs. Just let me know how I can be of service.

Thanks for all your support and referrals.

Tell your friends, share the wine, & spread the good vibe. Cheers!

Paul David, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

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Please note that you must be at least 21 years old to order or receive alcohol from this newsletter. All orders require the signature of a person at least 21 years of age.