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Zinfandel Tasting at Santiam Wine and Bistro

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Better late than never! I had the week off...back to work today, Hope to see you here tonight!

Wine Tasting: Fabulous Zinfandels!

Date: Friday, July 5th

Pricing: Full Pour \$18= 2 oz of each Half Pour \$11=1 oz pour of each

Time: 4-8 PM Tonight

THE SIX ZINFANDELS:

2011 Easton Amador Country Zinfandel \$18

Floral, sleek and elegant, with aromas of raspberry and riverbed rock, offering supple, balanced cherry and spicy fennel flavors that linger on the finish. Drink now through 2017. **90 Points Wine Spectator**

2010 KLINKER BRICK Old Vine Zinfandel, Lodi \$20

The 2010 vintage in Lodi was extraordinary with a long, cool growing season yielding beautiful, evenly ripened fruit. With aromas of black cherry, cedar shavings, vanilla and spice, this wine offers rich, supple flavors of cherries and plum, perfect balance and a long, smooth, lingering finish. Nutmeg, cardamom and pepper enhance an exotic nose but bright, dark fruits enhance a superb mouth filling experience. Our winemaker thinks this may be the vintage of the century!

2009 FOUR VINES "The Sophisticate" ZINFANDEL \$23

Appellation Zinfandels, The Sophisticate best exemplifies its nickname: elegant in balance, refined tannins, and a charismatic rich berry profile. A hearty addition of Petite Sirah and a splash of Syrah build on the juicy middle and brooding fruit tones. Aged in small French and American oak barrels for 14 months, this rustic country appellation shows surprising style and grace. Dark garnet in color with a nose of licorice, smoked meat, blackberries and chalky minerality with intriguing oak notes of cinnamon and butterscotch. On the palate, intense boysenberry flavors, supple tannins, a hint of vanilla and a great palate stain will keep you interested from start to finish.

2011 ENSO Alder Ridge ZINFANDEL Columbia Valley \$27.50

Zinfandel has been called America's Heritage Wine. Grown up and down the West Coast, it's a grape that is often misunderstood. "Is it white, pink, or red?" Oh brother. Given the right vintage, soil and climate, Zinfandel is the perfect triangulation of fruit, spice and earth. And that's what 2011's cool, long growing season gave to us. We just did our best not to mess it up! A classic jammy Zin goes well with anything grilled and peppered. So do it. Just do it.

2010 Marietta 2010 ANGELI CUVÉE Gyserville, CA \$30.50

The 2010 vintage marks the 17th release of our sought after Angeli Cuvee.

This wine is named after the owners of our Alexander Valley Ranch which we purchased in 1991. Traditionally, our cuvee has been a proprietary blend of Zinfandel, Petite Sirah and Carignane. With the cooler growing season in 2010, we added a touch of cool climate Syrah for complexity. Overall the 2010 vintage exudes aromas of blueberry, stone fruits and black licorice. The dense purple color is a great indication of what is to come on the mouth: a solid and complex wine which is full and velvety, and finishes with lasting toasty oak flavors. The secondary flavors of pepper, black currant and cinnamon continue to evolve once the wine is open. It's richness and intensity beg for extended aging, so cellaring a bottle or two for a few years will be rewarding.

2011 Orin Swift "THE PRISONER" \$40

The Prisoner is an innovative red blend that takes its stylistic cue from the drinkable "mixed blacks" first made by Italian immigrants who originally settled the Napa Valley. In the late 90's there were a handful of Napa producers beginning to make this style of wine again. The blend soon began to incorporate not only Zinfandel, but also Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Petite Sirah, Charbono, and Grenache. The wine has a dense red and black hue that is framed in vibrant crimson. Aromas of Bing cherry, espresso, roasted fig and vanillin oak accents are persistent. The entry is powerful and generous supported with lively acidity while flavors of ripe raspberry, pomegranate and wild berry fruit linger harmoniously. Soft, integrated tannin chains allow the wine to be approachable now and provides for a pleasant finish. This wine is a blend of 51% Zin, 19% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Syrah, 12% Petite Sirah., **2% Charbono and 1% Grenache.**

Cheers!

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