



## CÔTE À CÔTE 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **96**

The 2019 Côte à Côte is stunning this year, made up of 34% Grenache, 34% Syrah and 32% Mourvèdre. It has alluring, savory-tinged scents of blood orange, tar, aniseed and dried flowers with an undercurrent of spicy accents. The palate is ultra classy and pure, with fine, pixelated tannins, uplifting acidity and slowly opening layers of perfumed fruit that drive the very long finish.

## ÉPICÉ 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **95+**

The new 2019 Épicé comes from four barrels of Syrah that weren't blended into L'Aventure's other cuvées this vintage. Deep ruby-purple, it's bursting with pure cassis, white pepper, bitter chocolate and violet aromas. Satiny and seamless, it glides effortlessly across the palate with detailed flavors and finishes very long and mineral-driven. It deserves more time in bottle and should be long lived.

## INSPIRACIÓN 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **94**

The 2019 Inspiracion is a blend of 38% Grenache, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Syrah and 4% Grenache Blanc, inspired by the wines of Priorat in Spain. Deep ruby-purple, it offers alluring blackcurrants laced with graphite, violets and blood orange, with a slowly emerging array of spicy accents. The full-bodied palate is intensely fruited and elegantly framed, with silky tannins and bursts of juicy acidity elevating the layered finish.

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **97**

Blended with 5% Petit Verdot and matured in 80% new oak, the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve is ultra classy and very well-structured. Deep ruby-purple, it offers very pure black and red currants, licorice, dried roses and bouquet garni aromas, underpinned by subtle nuances of graphite and youthful oak spices. The medium-bodied palate boasts melting, chocolate-textured tannins, fresh acidity and notable fruit intensity, finishing very long and mineral-driven. This alluring, balanced Cabernet Sauvignon has a long life ahead in bottle.

"In Paso Robles, the super ripe, bold style of the last several vintages is toned down. Later-ripening varieties, such as Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah, offer softer, more approachable tannin structures, lower alcohols and soft, juicy bursts of acidity. In general, wines in 2019 managed to pack a lot of flavor onto slender frames, and many of the wines are ready to drink straightaway. The balance, intensity and personality of the wines and the consistency across varieties and regions suggest that many of the 2019s do offer a decade or more of cellaring potential."

## ESTATE CUVÉE BLANC 2020

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **91**

A blend of 54% Roussane, 27% Viognier and 19% Grenache Blanc, the 2020 Cuvée Blanc comes partially from the new Roussanne vines planted after 2015. It's minerally and shy to begin at this youthful stage, with soft yellow orchard fruits and nutty, honeyed undertones. The palate is fresh and satiny, and the finish is uplifted. It will benefit from another year or two in bottle.

## OPTIMUS 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **92**

The 2019 Optimus is a blend of 57% Syrah, 31% Cabernet Sauvignon and 12% Petit Verdot. It has a medium ruby-purple color and pure aromas of red and black berries with earthy, autumnal accents and a streak of spice. The medium-bodied palate is grainy and fresh, with pretty floral perfume on the long finish.

## ESTATE CUVÉE 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022 RATING **96+**

The 2019 Estate Cuvée, a blend of 50% Syrah, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Petit Verdot, has a deep ruby-purple color and fragrant aromas of cassis, licorice, dried roses, leather and youthful new oak spice. The full-bodied palate is silky and uplifted, with fine, savory accents and a very long, mineral-driven finish. It deserves another 3-5 years in bottle and will be long lived in the cellar.

## FOR HER 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022      RATING **96<sup>+</sup>**

The 2019 For Her is a blend of 56% Syrah, 32% Graciano and 12% Viognier. Deep ruby-purple, it unfurls to cassis, mint chocolate, licorice and cracked pepper, with floral and meaty aromas coming through with time in the glass. The palate is elegant and polished, with fine, pixelated tannins, seamless freshness and a long, mineral-driven finish. It's a great candidate for extended cellaring.

## CHLOÉ 2019

TASTING DATE - FEBRUARY 2022      RATING **95<sup>+</sup>**

A blend of co-fermented Syrah (69%), Grenache (23%) and Viognier (8%), the 2019 Cuvée Chloe has a deep ruby color and is especially fragrant this vintage, bursting with scents of red cherries, blueberries and blood orange with accents of violet, garrigue, tar and forest floor. The medium-bodied palate is fresh and silky with pure, layered fruits and a long finish. It deserves another 3-5 years in bottle and should be long lived in the cellar.