



“The 2021s, after one year in bottle, offer a mix of power, depth and finesse. These wines could only be made in Paso by a winemaker whose heart is half in Bordeaux and half in Paso Robles.”

- Eric Guido, June 2024

“We also tasted the last of his 2021s, a vintage that L’Aventure hit out of the park. The 2021 Les Demoiselles stole my heart with its energy and verve. Lastly, we revisited the 2022 Estate Reserve, having only sampled it from barrel last year; it’s a triumph for the vintage.”

- Eric Guido, June 2025

ESTATE CUVÉE 2021

rating **97**

The 2021 Estate Cuvée sports a blue label signifying its 20th anniversary. It’s darkly floral and stoney upon opening with notes of dusty sage, black earth and currants. This is deeply textural, velvety and supple, like molten chocolate. It flows across the palate, saturating with its intense red and black fruits while taking on graphite mineral tones and hints of exotic spice. Classically structured and long, this leaves a pleasantly bitter tinge and licorice under an air of violet inner florals. Bury the 2021 Estate Cuvée deep in the cellar.

FOR HER 2021

rating **97**

The 2021 For Her is a dark and brooding effort, still youthfully coiled. Flowery underbrush and exotic spice offset masses of raspberry and dried black cherries. This envelopes the palate with rich, seamlessly silky textures and ripe red and black fruits, taking on a savory edge. Tactile mineral tones add gravitas towards the close. A bounty of salted licorice swirls beneath an air of violet inner florals as the 2021 finishes spicy, potent and incredibly complex. Hands off for now; this is built for the cellar.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2021

rating **97**

The 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon smolders with a dark, brooding blend of dusty blackcurrants and plums, complicated by graphite mineral tones and sweet sage. Savory and sweet elements mix with polished red and black fruits that flow across a silken textural wave as a hint of clove mingles with fine tannins toward the close. The finish tapers with stunning minerality, like liquid gravel-structured and long yet still energetic. The potential here is off the charts.

LES DEMOISELLES 2021

rating **96**

The 2021 Les Demoiselles, dominated by Mourvèdre, is pure seduction, mixing cherry sauce and crushed raspberries with nuances of rosemary and cedary spice. Undeniable elegance is on display, energetic yet silky smooth, with depths of tart red berry fruits elevated by a core of zesty acidity. Rosy inner florals swirl across a staining of baking spice and licorice as pillowy tannins add subtle form through the exceptionally long finale.

CHLOÉ 2021

rating **96**

The 2021 Chloé tempts the imagination with a whiff of spiced blood orange and licorice before opening further with notes of rum-soaked cherry and baking spice. This seduces with its velvety textures, coming across as dense yet still quite spry, as mineral-drenched red berry fruits penetrate deeply. The 2021 mixes tannic heft with primary concentration, creating an epically structured feel that promises years of development. Hints of dark chocolate and a balsamic tinge slowly fade.

INSPIRACIÓN 2021

rating **96**

The 2021 Inspiración is rich and intense, with an alluring bouquet of blood orange, rose petals, incense and cedary spice. Cashmere-like on the palate, it soothes the senses with its soft and giving nature as ripe wild berry fruit and crisp mineral tones penetrate deeply, adding grip toward the close. Plum sauce mingles with savory herbs and a bitter twang of dark chocolates as this finishes staining, structured and long. This is a flat-out stunning, co-fermented blend of 49% Grenache, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Syrah, and 6% Grenache Blanc. Fabulous.

CÔTE À CÔTE 2021

rating **95**

Cool-toned and classic, the 2021 Côte à Côte opens with a lovely blend of crushed blackberries, dusty sage and a lifting hint of split pine. It's elegant and silky in feel, yet powerful all the same, with depths of ripe red and black fruits that wash across the palate with ease, all guided by brisk acidity. Gently tannic and more savory than anticipated, this leaves the mouth watering for more despite its youthful state and tension. Fantastic.

OPTIMUS 2021

rating **94**

The 2021 Optimus is darkly floral and savory in style, with a whiff of grilled herbs and ashen stone giving way to dried black cherries. It is seamlessly silken in feel and envelopes the palate in mineral-inflected red berry fruits that slowly saturate toward the close. Structured and intense, this wine leaves a tart raspberry concentration framed by sweet tannins as violet inner florals taper off. Optimus is a blend of 55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 18% Petit Verdot that was aged for one year in 50% new French oak.