



THE WINE PALATE

"More than 25 years after its founding, L'Aventure continues to embody the daring spirit that brought Stephan Asseo across the Atlantic. The former Estate Cuvée—now the Estate Reserve—beautifully captures the essence of Paso Robles' west side through a distinctly French perspective."

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW

ESTATE RESERVE 2022

Tasting Date: October 2025

RATING **97**

The 2022 Estate Reserve (formerly "Estate Cuvée Red" following a slight rebranding in 2022) is a blend of 55% Syrah, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 12% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple in color, it comes bounding out with exuberant notes of plum pudding, juicy blackberries, and raspberry pie, leading to an undercurrent of cinnamon stick, tilled soil, fallen leaves, and lavender oil. Full-bodied, the palate bursts with black and red berry preserve flavors, framed by velvety tannins and a racy line, finishing long and flamboyant.

ESTATE RESERVE 2021

Tasting Date: October 2025

RATING **100**

The 2021 Estate Cuvée Red marks the 20th anniversary of this wine, and the label is blue this year. It is a blend of 50% Syrah, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 20% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple in color, after a little swirling, notes of blueberry preserves, mulberries, and cassis erupt from the glass, giving way to nuances of cardamom, camphor, candied violets, and dark chocolate. The palate is built like a skyscraper, delivering very firm, ripe, grainy tannins and superb tension to support the taut, tightly knit perfumed black fruit layers, finishing very long and layered.

ESTATE RESERVE 2019

Tasting Date: October 2025

RATING **99**

The 2019 Estate Cuvée Red is a blend of 50% Syrah, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 15% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet in color—wow—it prances out of the glass with flamboyant notes of black cherry compote, ripe plums, and boysenberry preserves, followed by nuances of violets, crushed rocks, licorice, and smoked meats, plus a touch of garrigue. The full-bodied palate is an exercise in grace, featuring firm yet silky tannins and exhilarating tension framing the tightly knit black fruit and floral layers, finishing long and minerally. Superb!

ESTATE RESERVE 2018

Tasting Date: October 2025

RATING **98**

The 2018 Estate Cuvée Red is a blend of 45% Syrah, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 15% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet in color, the nose is initially closed and broody, offering scents of tar, peppered salami, and tilled soil before opening to a core of plum preserves, blackberry pie, and mocha, with a waft of anise. The full-bodied palate features a firm backbone of ripe, grainy tannins, bold freshness, and muscular fruit, finishing long and earthy. This will be a very long-lived vintage!

ESTATE RESERVE 2017

Tasting Date: October 2025

RATING **97**

The 2017 Estate Cuvée Red is a blend of 49% Syrah, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 21% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet in color, it bursts with notes of juicy black plums, ripe blackberries, and preserved cherries, followed by hints of mint tea, dark chocolate, licorice, and Chinese five spice, with a waft of unsmoked cigars. Full-bodied, rich, and velvety, the palate is packed with slowly evolving black fruit flavors, accented by earthy and exotic spice nuances, finishing long and fragrant.