

2007 Tablas Creek Chardonnay
Antithesis



Add to Print List

RATING:	92 points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Chardonnay
DRINK:	2009 - 2014
ESTIMATED COST:	\$27
SOURCE:	WA, #184 Aug 2009

Readers looking for a mineral-styled Chardonnay that has been aged in neutral wood should check out the 2007 Antithesis Chardonnay. From fruit grown in pure limestone soils, this is as close as a California white can get to grand cru Chablis. Lemon zest, peach blossom, crushed rock, and white currant characteristics are present in this offering along with beautiful acidity, an underlying liqueur of wet rock-like component, and zesty acidity and freshness. It should drink well for at least 3-5 years.

[Show Other Tastings For This Wine](#)

This Paso Robles outpost is owned by two Francophiles, Frenchman Francois Perrin (one of the owners of the Rhone Valley's Chateau Beaucastel) and Robert Haas (founder of the import company Vineyard Brands, and a pioneer importer of estate-bottled French wines). Seeking out steep limestone ridges near the Pacific Ocean, Tablas Creek was a work in progress for its first four to five years, but it has come on like gang-busters in the 21st century. The 2007s are unquestionably their finest wines to date, but readers should not overlook the excellent 2006s.

Tel. (805) 237-1231; Fax (805) 237-1314

[-Robert Parker](#)

2008 Tablas Creek Chardonnay
Antithesis



Add to Print List

RATING:	(91-93) points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Chardonnay
DRINK:	-
ESTIMATED COST:	\$27

Once again, the brilliant grand cru Chablis look-alike, the 2008 Antithesis Chardonnay, exhibits plenty of white currant, honeyed grapefruit, lemon butter, and crushed rock-like characteristics in its distinctively French personality.

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2006 Tablas Creek Mourvedre



Add to Print List

RATING: 89 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Mourvedre

DRINK: 2009 - 2015

ESTIMATED COST: \$35

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

The 2006 Mourvedre (includes 10% Syrah) is one of the finest examples of this cuvee that Tablas Creek has produced. Its dense ruby/purple color is followed by a big, smoky, gamy, earthy nose displaying notions of blackberries and blueberries, medium to full body, and excellent length as well as richness. It should last for 4-6 years ... at the minimum.

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2007 Tablas Creek Mourvedre



Add to Print List

RATING: 91 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Mourvedre

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED

The outstanding 2007 Mourvedre possesses a denser purple color as well as black fruit, roasted mushroom, and floral characteristics, a textured mouthfeel, and none of the harshness or rusticity Mourvedre can sometimes provide.


(Not yet released)

This Paso Robles outpost is owned by two Francophiles, Frenchman Francois Perrin (one of the owners of the Rhone Valley's Chateau

2006 Tablas Creek Sacrerouge

[Add to Print List](#)

RATING: 87 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Mourvedre

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED COST: \$45

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

Less impressive is the 100% Mourvedre sweet red, the 2006 Sacrerouge (124 grams of residual sugar), which is slightly earthy and herbal. While it reveals some attractive chocolaty, berry fruit, it does not seem totally harmonious.

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-Robert Parker

2007 Tablas Creek Sacrerouge

[Add to Print List](#)

RATING: (89-91) points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Mourvedre

DRINK: 2009 - 2015

ESTIMATED COST:

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

Much better is the 2007 Sacrerouge (100% Mourvedre), which offers pungent floral, pepper, blueberry, blackberry, and earthy notes. While it's hard to say how long these wines will last, both are probably best drunk during their first 5-6 years of life.

(Not yet released)

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2008 Tablas Creek Picpoul



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RATING: (88-90) points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Picpoul Blanc

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED COST:

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

The exotic, mineral-laced, fresh 2008 Picpoul reveals some unusual tropical fruit notes, making it more flamboyant and showy than its siblings. The region's limestone soils come through in the wine's minerality.

(Not yet released)

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2006 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel



Add to Print List

RATING: 92 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Proprietary Blend

DRINK: 2009 - 2019

The brilliant 2006 Esprit de Beaucastel (45% Mourvedre, 28% Grenache, 22% Syrah, and the rest Counoise) possesses abundant aromas of underbrush, blueberries, blackberries, coffee beans, and licorice. An elegant, long, pure, medium to full-bodied effort, it is a faithful representation of its Mediterranean blend. Consume it over the next decade.

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de
Beaucastel



Add to Print List

RATING: (95-97) points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek

FROM: Paso Robles San
Luis Obispo,
Central Coast,
California, USA

VARIETY: Proprietary Blend

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED COST: \$35

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009



The profound 2007 Esprit de Beaucastel (a 4,200-case blend of 44% Mourvedre, 29% Grenache, 21% Syrah, and 6% Counoise) boasts a glorious perfume of roasted herbs, Peking duck, soy, blueberries, blackberries, and bouquet garni. This elegant yet powerful, dense, multilayered wine saturates the palate, possesses multiple dimensions, beautiful nuances, and a stunningly long finish that lasts over 40 seconds. It should provide plenty of pleasure over the next 10-15 years.

(Not yet released)

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2006 Tablas Creek Cote de Tablas



Add to Print List

RATING: 89 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek

FROM: Paso Robles San
Luis Obispo,
Central Coast,
California, USA

A Cotes du Rhone clone, the value-priced, delicious 2006 Cotes de Tablas is a juicy, earthy effort made primarily from Grenache with small amounts of Syrah, Mourvedre, and Counoise included in the blend. It offers classic black cherry, licorice, lavender, pepper, and spice

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-Robert Parker

2007 Tablas Creek Cote de Tablas



Add to Print List

RATING: 93 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Rhone Blend

DRINK: 2009 - 2015

ESTIMATED COST: \$20

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009



[Find It Online](#)

The 2007 Cotes de Tablas is a sensational wine as well as a great bargain. The fact that it is finished with a screw cap may give some consumers the wrong impression, but this is a serious, mouthfilling red. A blend of 50% Grenache and the balance equal parts Syrah and Cunoise, it exhibits sweet, gamy notes along with plenty of pepper, licorice, roasted herb, blackberry, and cassis characteristics, a velvety, lush texture, a full-bodied richness, beautifully integrated acidity, abundant Provencal typicity, and good minerality for a wine of such remarkable flavor depth. Enjoy it over the next 5-6 years.

(Not yet released)

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2007 Tablas Creek Cote de Tablas Blanc



Add to Print List

RATING:	90 points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Rhone Blend
DRINK:	-
ESTIMATED COST:	\$16-\$23
SOURCE:	WA, #184 Aug 2009



[Show Other Tastings For This Wine](#)

One of California's most innovative, delicious, Rhone Valley-inspired dry whites is the Cotes de Tablas blanc. The 2007 (a small crop blend of 38% Viognier, 25% Marsanne, 20% Roussanne, and 17% Grenache) is a brilliant effort revealing scents of quince, honeyed apricots, white currants, and crushed rocks. A medium-bodied wine with beautiful density, good acidity, a hint of orange marmalade, and long, fresh, crisp flavors, it should drink nicely for several years.

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2008 Tablas Creek Cote de Tablas Blanc



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RATING:	(91-93) points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Rhone Blend
DRINK:	2009 - 2012
ESTIMATED COST:	

The unbottled 2008 whites include the 2008 Cotes de Tablas Blanc (a blend of 42% Viognier, 26% Roussanne, and 20% Marsanne, and the balance Grenache). It exhibits attractive honeyed grapefruit, lemon blossom, and exotic tropical fruit notes, superb freshness, and good underlying acidity, ripeness, and length. Enjoy it over the next 2-3 years.

(Not yet released)

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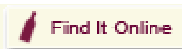
[-Robert Parker](#)

2007 Tablas Creek Esprit de
Beaucastel Blanc



Add to Print List

RATING:	93 points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Rhone Blend
DRINK:	2009 - 2014
ESTIMATED COST:	\$30-\$38
SOURCE:	WA, #184 Aug 2009



[Show Other Tastings For This Wine](#)

The prodigious 2007 Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc (68% Roussanne, 22% Grenache Blanc, and 10% Picpoul) is one of the finest white Rhone Rangers I have tasted. A beautiful bouquet of orange blossoms, honeysuckle, lemon zest, quince, and white flowers is followed by a full-bodied wine with stunning concentration, layered flavors, and good underlying minerality as well as acidity. This sensational wine should provide immense pleasure over the next 3-5 years.

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2008 Tablas Creek Esprit de
Beaucastel Blanc



Add to Print List

RATING:	(90-92) points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Rhone Blend
DRINK:	2009 - 2014
ESTIMATED COST:	

Tablas Creek's flagship white, the 2008 Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc, is a blend of 65% Roussanne, 30% Grenache Blanc, and 5% Picpoul. It offers up sumptuous aromas of orange marmalade, lemon blossom, and white currants along with spice, crushed rock, and subtle earthy notes. This full-bodied, rich, lively white should drink well for 4-5 years.

(Not yet released)

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2006 Tablas Creek Panoplie



Add to Print List

RATING: 95 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Rhone Blend

DRINK: 2009 - 2014

ESTIMATED COST: \$85

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

A blockbuster offering is the 2006 Panoplie (68% Mourvedre, 27% Grenache, and 5% Syrah). Aged in large wood foudres and the smaller demi-muids, this beauty reveals notes of soy, roasted herbs, gamy animal, and copious quantities of black and blue fruits. With superb texture, full-bodied richness, and a long finish, it should drink nicely for 10-15 years.

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2007 Tablas Creek Panoplie



Add to Print List

RATING: (96-98) points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Rhone Blend

DRINK: 2009 - 2024

ESTIMATED COST:

Another compelling offering is the 2007 Panoplie, a blend of 60% Mourvedre, 30% Grenache, and 10% Syrah. About as good as a Rhone Ranger blend can be, it displays an inky/purple color as well as a big, sweet nose of Peking duck intermixed with herbs, licorice, creosote, and copious quantities of blackberry and blueberry liqueur. Full-bodied with a multilayered texture, super-sweet tannin, good underlying freshness, and an opulent, even voluptuous finish, it should easily evolve for 10-15 years.

to date, but readers should not overlook the excellent 2006s.

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2007 Tablas Creek Roussanne



Add to Print List

RATING: 91 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Roussanne

DRINK: 2009 - 2012

ESTIMATED COST: \$27

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

More unctuously-textured is the honeysuckle and orange marmalade-scented, waxy 2007 Roussanne. This full-bodied, oily-styled white is meant to be drunk with intensely flavored fish dishes over the next 2-3 years.

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[-Robert Parker](#)


[Show Other Tastings For This Wine](#)

2008 Tablas Creek Roussanne



Add to Print List

RATING: (90-92) points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Roussanne

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED COST:

SOURCE: WA, #184

The 2008 Roussanne appears to be as powerful, unctuously-textured, thick, and juicy as the 2007. Rich honeysuckle notes intermixed with notions of sealing wax, quince, and buttered nuts are followed by a full-bodied, dense wine that is potentially even richer and denser than the 2007.

(Not yet released)

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Aug 2009

import company Vineyard Brands, and a pioneer importer of estate-bottled French wines).

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2006 Tablas Creek Vin de Paille Quintessence



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RATING: 94 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Roussanne

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED COST: \$85

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

The three sweet wine offerings include the 2006 Vin de Paille Quintessence, a 100% Roussanne cuvee possessing 280 grams of residual sugar per liter, and 8.6% alcohol. It reveals an unctuous, 10W40 motor oil-like viscosity in addition to abundant amounts of marmalade, coffee, and brown sugar notes. With surprisingly fine acidity, it is neither cloying nor heavy.

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2006 Tablas Creek Syrah



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RATING: 90 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

The 2006 Syrah, a combination of 90% Syrah and 10% Grenache, has fleshed out nicely. It

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2007 Tablas Creek Syrah



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RATING:	92 points
PRODUCER:	Tablas Creek 
FROM:	Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA
VARIETY:	Syrah
DRINK:	2009 - 2017
ESTIMATED COST:	
SOURCE:	WA, #184 Aug 2009

The finest Syrah to date, the 2007 includes 10% Grenache in the blend. Sweet notes of creme de cassis, tar, smoke, charcoal, and camphor are found in this deep, rich, full-bodied effort. Sweet tannin, a velvety, opulent texture, and a long finish suggest this beauty will drink well for 6-8 years.

(Not yet released)

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2007 Tablas Creek Tannat



Add to Print List

RATING: (84-86) points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Tannat

DRINK: -

ESTIMATED COST:

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

The only red wine I did not find exciting is the 2007 Tannat, an eccentric blend of 90% Tannat and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon. It is a deep ruby/purple-hued, austere, extremely tannic wine that undoubtedly gives the taster a higher amount of resveratrol than required for good cardiac health.

(Not yet released)

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[-Robert Parker](#)

2008 Tablas Creek Vermentino



Add to Print List

RATING: 87 points

PRODUCER: Tablas Creek 

FROM: Paso Robles San Luis Obispo, Central Coast, California, USA

VARIETY: Vermentino

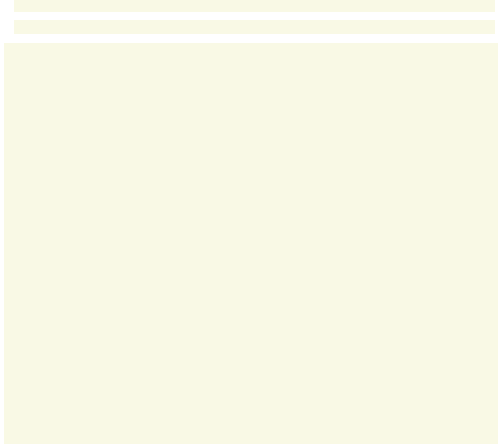
DRINK: 2009 - 2010

ESTIMATED COST: \$27

SOURCE: WA, #184
Aug 2009

2008 appears to be a very good vintage for Tablas Creek's white wines, but the only bottled 2008 I tasted is the 2008 Vermentino, a light straw-colored effort with a greenish hue. Tart lemon zest notes are accompanied by herb and crushed rock undertones in this fresh, light to medium-bodied, crisp white. It is ideal for drinking over the next year.

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