Robert M. Parker, Jr.'s
The WINE ADVOCATE®

Closing Date: 2-28-02
Issue 139

1999 Reserve Cuvée

TABLAS CREEK VINEYARD

"This promising hillside vineyard west of Highway 101, six miles from the Pacific Ocean, is jointly owned by importer Robert Haas and the Perrin family of Château de Beaucastel in Châteauneuf du Pape. There is a total of 180 acres, 80 of which are under vine, and 30 leased. Except for a small parcel of Chardonnay, only Rhône varietals are planted. The plantings include Mourvèdre (45%), Syrah (22%), Grenache (22%), and the rest Counoise. The white varietals include Roussanne (50%), Viognier (25%), Marsanne (10%), Grenache Blanc, and the aforementioned Chardonnay. Tablas Creek is still a work in progress, with the winery only having been built in 1997. ...It has become exciting over recent vintages, particularly with the 2000s."

"The 1999 Reserve Cuvée is a blend of 40% Mourvèdre, 27% Grenache, 23% Syrah and 10% Counoise. It exhibits a dense purple color, as well as a sweet perfume of blackberries, leather, licorice, earth and pepper. Elegant, rich, medium to full-bodied, and ripe, with nicely integrated tannin, it will drink well for a decade or more."

90 points

TABLAS CREEK VINEYARD
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