



## Boardroom Fall - Winter 2017

### Longboard 1 - Central Coast

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#### **Kinero: Alice Grenache Blanc 2012, Blackseth Vineyard**

*Paso Robles - 50 cases - Vinous: 93, Parker: 92*

Our only Central Coast white wine for this release, *Alice* scored an impressive 93 by Antonio Galloni and 92 by Parker – not surprising for this young winemaker who specializes in whites and never compromises. This is the wine to serve to kick off Christmas or New Year’s eve in style. It’s a medium-bodied, textured wine featuring pear blossom and hints of almond alongside nectarine, quince and Key lime. Serve with pride – and goats cheese with figs!

*Best: This holiday season*

#### **Loring: Pinot Noir Clos Pepe Vineyard 2015**

*Sta. Rita Hills - 150 cases - Parker: 94, Wine Enthusiast: 94*

Brian Loring’s approach to his Pinots are pretty set: Age them around 10 months in overwhelmingly neutral oak and let the vineyard speak for itself. The coveted Clos Pepe grapes shine in this bottling with their white peppery, baking-spice character set in crushed red berries, loamy earth and nutty oak. Serve it with turkey or other light meats – or save it for upwards of a decade.

*Best: 2022 – 2027*

#### **Nicora: Syrah Slide Hill Vineyard 2014**

*Edna Valley, San Luis Obispo - 140 cases – Parker: 94, Wine Enthusiast: 92*

This single-vineyard wine is sourced from the Slide Hill biodynamic vineyard in Edna Valley, San Luis Obispo, about 45 minutes south of Paso Robles. It was originally planted by the owners of Qupé, who still source fruit from this site. The cool-site Syrah owned a rightful 94 points by Jeb Dunnock (of Wine Advocate) and shows lots of pepper, charred beef and a great tannic backbone. 18 months in barrel adds lots of depth, concentration and a long finish. 1-hour decant recommended.

*Best: 2018-2024*



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### **Villa Creek: Avenger 2008**

*70% Syrah, 15% Mourvedre, 15% Grenache - Paso Robles - 385 cases - Wine Spectator: 93*

Avenger is one of our favourite Villa Creek wines. The problem is, it's just so darn hard to get a hold of. Cris Cherry sources fruit from neighbor and good friend Justin Smith's James Berry Vineyard - so this is your chance to taste some impossible-to-get fruit! It is a spot-on rendering of Paso Syrah (with a splash of Mourvedre and Grenache), garnering 93 points by Wine Spectator. Dark, bold and rich like a Colombian drug lord with loads of black berries, a hint of sweet anise and a persistent finish. We did the temperature-controlled cellaring for you, so just dig in and enjoy.

*Best: Now-2019*

### **Herman Story: Casual Encounters 2009**

*40% Syrah, 30% Grenache, 30% Mourvedre - 235 cases - Wine Spectator: 92*

Sweet, brooding and spicy. Herman Story is all about the berries while still balancing elegance and a "let's crash this party!" attitude. Dark cherry, blueberry jam set in a charred wood frame makes this ideal with a nice bbq steak - or a great wine to just enjoy with friends and some tapas (highly recommended!).

*Best: Now-2020*

### **L'Aventure: Optimus 2010**

*55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Petit Verdot - Paso Robles - Parker: 97, Tanzer: 94*

This is a scoop of a wine and our showstopper of this offering. The Bordeaux-Rhone blend scored a whopping 97 points with Parker, which makes it a truly *great* deal. This wine saw 80% new oak for 14 months and was not fined or filtered, as per L'Aventure standards. Ripe, dark berry and cherry get a make-over by musky underbrush and anise. Subtle tannins and good acidity keep it lively and - like all L'Aventure wines - makes for a keeper!

*Best: 2018-2025*