



# SOMMELIER SCHOOL

Sip your way through our study of Santa Barbara oenology

BY Nicole Johnson

#### SLOW AND STEADY

Paula Tabalipa, a Brazilian-born-and-bred veteran of Hollywood costume design, is reconnecting with her roots through *Tabalipa Wine Co*. Treasuring the serenity in slowing down, the budding vigneron is growing small-batch Syrah Rosé with refined flavor. Paula's sustainable farming and minimal intervention techniques bring her Brazilian tranquility to bear on a historic 20-acre estate, originally tilled by Dale Hampton, a trailblazer in Central Coast wine. Backed by the esteemed expertise of Dragonette Cellars and graced by unhurried hands, Tabalipa Wine Co. is a go—and the freshly bottled 2023 N°01 Rosé is a crisp debut for the boutique brand.



## IN THE STARS

San Ysidro Ranch's world-class wine cellar is reaching celestial heights. The resort has procured 138 vintages from celebrated Bordeaux estate Château d'Yquem, cultivating the most extensive restaurant allocation of its kind in North America. Of the vineyard's nearly 700-year history as a standard-setter in dessert wine, this Premier Cru Supérieur collection-featuring vintages from 1811 to 2008-is its almost 200-year highlight reel. Its star is the 1811 "Comet Vintage," mystified by an astronomical alignment during its harvest. Less than 10 bottles remain, once earning them the loftiest price tag of any white wine in the world. You'll have to taste it to believe it: perhaps through San Ysidro Ranch's new Ty Warner Wine Collective, a range of customized tastings, consultations, and classes showcasing its otherworldly offerings. sanysidroranch.com



CHATEAU D'YOUEM COLLECTION

### A LEGACY, LIONIZED

The magnum opus of DAOU Vineyards is making its latest debut. Honoring the roaring legacy of the Daou brothers' father, the 2021 Estate Soul of a Lion marks the bold return of the winery's leading varietal. Cultivated at an elevation of 2,200 feet on the family's 212-acre Paso Robles terroir, the berry-rich Cabernet Sauvignon has solidified DAOU's spot on the viniculture map since its 2010 inception. Lauded for its vibrant tannins-not to mention an impressive 96-98-point rating by Robert Parker's Wine Advocate—2021 Soul of a Lion is paired best with autumnal fare on star-lit nights. daouvineyards.com



wanderlust and wine. wineloverstravel.com



OUL OF A LION CABERNET SAUVIGNON

PASO ROBLES

DELAIDA DISTRICT

#### SIP SIDEWAYS

The Hitching Post Wines is celebrating 20 years of Sideways, the Academy Award-winning film that elevated their iconic bottles to the big screen. Throughout September and October, savor a special edition of their flagship Highliner Pinot Noir-touted by Paul Giamatti and Thomas Haden Church in the movie-in the Hitching Post 2's classic Buellton restaurant and tasting room. A series of three winemaker dinners, hosted at The Hitching Post 2 on September 15, La Paloma Cafe on September 24, and Jar in Los Angeles on October 25, takes this birthday bash on tour. True buffs of the 2004 blockbuster are invited to the Sideways 20th Anniversary Festival on September 29, a screening at the Solvang Festival Theater paired exquisitely with an evening of live music and refreshments at the Hitching Post 2. And don't worry—though Sideways isn't yet drinking age, this is all legal. hpwines.com

2021 DAOU SOUL OF A LION

Next spring, jet-set from Alma Rosa Winery's terroir in the Sta. Rita Hills to the slopes of Sarajevo. From May 25 to June 3, 2025, the Vineyard Trails of Bosnia tour will offer an unrivaled field study in the rich viniculture of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, and the Istrian Peninsula of Croatia. Ancient ruins and boat rides will interweave between private tastings at premier estates of the Balkans, where centuries of organic cultivation run through the veins of every mountain and waterway. Skillfully guided by Alma Rosa winemaker and native Bosnian Samra Morris, the intimate 18-person escapade is the ultimate synthesis of



SIDEWAYS

ALMA ROSA WINERY PHOTOGRAPHY SILAS FALLSTICH