



# L'Aventure

L'Aventure Côte à Côte is a masterful blend from Paso Robles, showcasing the power and elegance of Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvèdre. Crafted with meticulous care by Stephan Asseo, this wine is a true expression of the unique terroir of the L'Aventure estate.



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 45% Grenache, 30% Syrah, 25% Mourvèdre

## Cote a Cote 2020

California, USA

### Region and Vineyards

L'Aventure Winery is located on the **west side of Paso Robles**, a region known for its limestone-rich soils and maritime influences, making it ideal for Rhône varietals. The **estate vineyard** is meticulously maintained, yielding only **1 ton per acre for Mourvèdre** and **2 tons per acre for Grenache and Syrah**. These low yields ensure concentrated fruit flavors and exceptional quality in every bottle.

Paso Robles' **Mediterranean climate**, marked by warm days and cool nights, allows for an extended growing season, enabling optimal ripeness and complexity in the fruit. The combination of **limestone soils** and meticulous viticulture on this **estate vineyard** creates wines with deep minerality, balanced acidity, and robust structure.

### Winemaking

The **Côte à Côte** is a blend of **45% Grenache**, **30% Syrah**, and **25% Mourvèdre**, all sourced from the estate's own vineyards. The wine is aged for **14 months** using a unique combination of **36% 1-year old French oak**, **33% new French oak**, **17% concrete**, and **15% amphora**. This diversity of aging vessels contributes to the wine's complexity, blending subtle oak influence with a purity of fruit.

The wine is made with **no fining or filtering**, preserving its natural texture and enhancing its aging potential. The careful balance of aging techniques, along with the estate's **strict low-yield viticulture**, results in a wine that is both structured and vibrant, with an impressive capacity for aging—**up to 20 years**.

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** A deep, garnet hue with purple reflections.
- **Aroma:** The nose opens with vibrant aromas of **red and black berries**, hints of **lavender**, **garrigue**, and a touch of **black pepper**. Subtle notes of **violet** and **spiced oak** emerge with time.
- **Palate:** On the palate, this wine shows a seamless integration of ripe **black cherry**, **blackberry**, and **plum**, with layers of **licorice**, **herbs**, and a hint of **smoky minerality**. The tannins are finely grained, offering a plush texture that leads to a long, savory finish marked by **spice** and **earth**.



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## Did You Know?

L'Aventure was founded by **Stephan Asseo**, a maverick winemaker who left his traditional Bordeaux roots in search of creative freedom. He found it in **Paso Robles**, where he could blend Rhône and Bordeaux varietals without the constraints of French AOC regulations. The name "L'Aventure" reflects Asseo's daring journey from France to California, embodying his innovative spirit in winemaking.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck breast with fig compote:** The richness of the duck and the sweetness of the figs will enhance the lush fruit flavors in the wine.
- **Lamb tagine with prunes and almonds:** The wine's depth of fruit and spice will complement the earthy, sweet, and savory notes of the dish.
- **Roasted venison with blackberry sauce:** The gamey flavors of venison pair beautifully with the wine's intense blackberry and plum notes.
- **Aged Manchego or Comté:** The wine's tannic structure and fruit-forward profile balance the saltiness and nutty flavors of aged cheeses.



### Robert Parker (RP) : 98 Points (2020)

*The 2020 Côte a Côte is a beautiful blend of 45% Grenache, 30% Syrah and 25% Mourvèdre and one of the most successful wines I tasted from the challenging 2020 vintage. Deep ruby-purple, it offers pure aromas of blackcurrant, boysenberry, tar and pipe tobacco, continually unfolding with each return to the glass. The full-bodied palate offers wave after wave of perfumed fruit and tremendous spicy accents. It's powerful yet harmoniously structured with powdery tannins and seamless acidity, and it offers a very long, detailed finish. (EB)*



### James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2020)

*I love the depth and the mineral quality of this. Dark cherries, black licorice, iodine, graphite, oyster shells and hot stones. Quite vertical yet broad, with super fine but present tannins. Long, seductive yet quite focused, too. A stunner from L'Aventure. 45% grenache, 30% syrah and 25% mourvedre. Drink or hold.*



### Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 95 Points (2020)

*The 2020 Côte a Côte is youthful and coy, displaying a subtle blend of dusty stone, lavender and wild blueberries. It's pure pleasure on the palate, velvety smooth yet full of energy, with crisp red and black fruits that cascade throughout. This finishes spicy, leaving a primary concentration and subtly grippy tannins that frame the experience without slowing its momentum. The 2020 is an understated beauty that will require some cellaring to blossom fully. (EG)*



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