

# CONNOISSEURS' GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA WINE



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-Los Angeles Times

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## ARISTA TWO BIRDS Russian River Valley 2010

The richest of the Arista lot and rivaled only by the bottling from Harper's Rest Vineyard when it comes to fruity depth, this well-made Pinot shows layer upon layer of perfectly ripe cherries and lovely oak with accents of vanilla, fresh cream and a touch of dried flowers lending real complexity. It is, in fact so rich and well crafted that it seems certain to tempt early drinking, but we urge patience insofar as its exceptional structure and its vibrant, long-lasting finish are noteworthy markers that signal plenty of future growth over a half decade.

**\$68.00**

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## ARISTA HARPER'S REST VINEYARD Russian River Valley 2010

Very deep, very pure and precise in its optimally ripened, cherry-like fruit and laced with complexing touches of cinnamon, nutmeg and just a touch of dried herbs, the Harper's Rest Pinot ranks with Arista's best 2010. It is a comparatively sleek wine rather than one that goes for mass and muscle, but it is also wonderfully well-focused and vital. It shows a fine sense of freshness from beginning to end and its finely fit acids ensure that it will stay bright and lively for a good many years

**\$75.00**

90



## ARISTA LONGBOW Russian River Valley 2010

Leaning ever so slightly to ripeness and featuring lots of direct, black-cherry fruit as the star player, this plump and slightly plush Pinot gets the nod for its richness and depth rather than subtle grace. That is not to say that it is clumsy or heavy, and it shows good sustain and a bit of positive grip at the finish, but whereas some of its mates will be better served by a few more years patience, this one jumps from the glass and should do yeoman service with fast pork right now.

**\$48.00**

