

Wicked Cellars Tasting Notes
Friday, August 16th, 4-7 p.m.

***OUR 2013 ZINERIFFIC ZINFABULOUTASTIC
ZINFANDEL TASTING!!!!***

\$10 Tasting Fee

First up is Peachy Canyon Winery, Doug and Nancy Beckett's a small family owned winery in the beautiful wine country of Westside Paso Robles specializing in estate Zinfandels since 1988.

Peachy Canyon 2011 Incredible Red Zinfandel \$14.99

With a rich candied cherry nose this vibrantly hued Zinfandel bursts with bright strawberry and cherry fruit flavors. Pleasing acidity and structure are balanced by softer fruits and leather nuances on the mid-palate, leaving you with notes of spicy oak, fennel and mocha on a long, lingering finish.

Peachy Canyon 2010 "Westside Block" Zinfandel \$21.99

89 points Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar:

"Inky purple. Spice-accented aromas of candied black and blue fruits, licorice and cola, with a subtle floral nuance emerging with air. Lush and expansive, offering bitter cherry and boysenberry flavors supported by gentle acidity. Soft tannins add shape to the slightly warm finish, which strongly repeats the boysenberry and spice notes."

Steele Wines Catfish Vineyard Zinfandel 2010 \$24.99

Catfish Vineyard Zinfandel is a rich and robust traditional California field blend of a number of varieties grown and blended with the Zinfandel. These include Carignan, Alicante Bouschet, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Sirah, and Cinsault. The vineyard, located on the Bell Hill bench of Lake County, was planted in 1901, is head pruned and stands on its own roots. Tasting it is to experience the wines enjoyed by the immigrant winemaking pioneers of old California.

Oakville Winery 2011 Oakville Zinfandel, Napa Valley \$26.99

The unique Oakville Zinfandel has developed a powerful structure that is sweet on the front palate and spicy on the back. Black currants, wild huckleberries, cherries and a melting essence of dark chocolate emerge from this full-bodied wine to finish with notes of vanilla and cracked pepper.

Four Vines 2010 Biker Zinfandel \$21.99

Four Vines' Biker is the muscle bike of Zinfandels because Paso Robles is the granddaddy of Zin appellations, and century-old vines create the kind of juice that keeps winemakers up nights. A splash of Mourvèdre lends the Biker an extra kick in the mid-palate, showing supple ripe wild blackberry and boysenberry, teriyaki, and black pepper on the nose.

Frank Family 2011 Napa Valley Zinfandel \$39.99

With dark and deep color, this Zin displays captivating blue and magenta hues as sweet and savory aromas of herbs and raspberry jam, combine with smoke cured meat and hints of black pepper in the background, enveloping the nose. The palate is soft and fleshy complemented by earthy and toasty notes and lingering ripe sweet plums flavors.

(86% Zinfandel with 6% Petite Sirah, 4% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Tempranillo aged 18 months in 35% new and 65% once used French oak barrels.)

2011 Biale Black Chicken Zinfandel, Napa Valley \$45.99

Beginning in 1937 on the outskirts of Napa, California Biale patriarch Aldo Biale sold and delivered eggs, white chickens, seasonal fruit, vegetables and an occasional "black chicken." In the days of party line telephones, that was code for a gallon jug of Zinfandel from Aldo's private barrels hidden in the barn, a practice that continued for decades.

The 2011 Black Chicken is one gorgeous "Chicken" and right on the money: lush and dark with fruits of blackberry, berry pie, black cherry, white pepper, peppermint, molasses, Oreo cookie, Tumeric, vanilla, clove and nutmeg. A mouth-wetting snap of acidity balances the round and ripe fruit, and the thin-skinned Zinfandel tannins propel the wine into an elegant and impressive big Pinot Noir style experience.