



**2009 CROCKER & STARR  
SAUVIGNON BLANC, NAPA VALLEY**

California Sauvignon Blancs are another ball of wax. When they're bad or average, they can be annoyingly fat and fruity, but when they're great, they can be downright hedonistic, while remaining crisp and dry. Forgive me, Father, for I have fallen under the spell of Crocker & Starr's obvious charms: its billowing, exotic, tropical arboretum of a note more like a pealing Megan Fox than a lean and taciturn Noomi Rapace; its voluptuous layering of peaches and cream on the palate suggesting Marilyn Monroe rather than Katharine Hepburn. What's not to like, especially with snowy white veal or roasted chicken in plush sauces?



**2006 CROCKER & STARR  
CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
STONE PLACE, NAPA VALLEY**

As the rehabilitated vines in this St. Helena estate (dating back to the 1870's) have evolved since winemaker-partner Pamela Starr's arrival, the Stone Place bottling has become 100% Cabernet Sauvignon for the first time in its 10-year history. The nose is an intriguing mix of shriveled plum, blackcurrant, rope tobacco, and roasting espresso, translating into black-chocolate-covered blueberry with dashes of cinnamon and clove on the palate. As always, the textures are perfectly scaled, seamless, sumptuous, and sinewy.

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