

Orangethicket Wines

Small Wineries, Great Wines

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Introduction

Of late I have been distributing this newsletter on the last weekend of the month. I figure that by now you are all gazing at your in box with heightened anticipation. Meanwhile, Laurie and I are in Italy visiting two of our wineries, evaluating two more and otherwise generally goofing off. The magic of Constant Contact allows me to write this now (September 7) and defer distribution to the normal time. Plan on a regular edition in October.

Rambling

I hesitate to begin rambling for this issue, but here I am. Actually, I am not here - I am in Tuscany. Laurie and I have visited Tuscany several times. For some reason the regional government has building codes that more or less prohibit building. The result is that all the towns and villages are unspoiled by modern architecture. They are a delight to visit. Another feature of Tuscany is that the road north from Rome goes through it, so for centuries the Tuscans learned to build their villages on the top of hills away from the main roads taken by the Roman armies. They also learned to build walls around their villages to discourage casual pillaging by the armies or neighbouring villages. The net result is that today's cars and trucks stay in the valleys while the walled hill towns still have their narrow streets, little parking and generally are the way they have been for centuries.

At the cultural level, Laurie has made reservations at two galleries in Florence. The Accademia houses the Michelangelo's "David" as well as his unfinished "Slaves". The slaves seem to be emerging from blocks of Carrara marble. These are my favorites - it allows me to begin to imagine

the craft needed to move from a rock to sculpture.
So as you read this, I will likely be slaving away.

The Rambler vacations on...

Cin cin,

Richard (newsletter writer) and Laurie (editor)
Orangewood Wines

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