



Steve Heimoff Top Ten Wines of The Week: February 4th

Five Syrahs make this week's list, a first for my Top Ten Wines of the Week. The Valley of the Moon and Bianchi are good values.

Later today, I'm going up to the Napa Valley Vintners for the second in a series of large blind tastings they're setting up for me. I'm looking forward to 4 or 5 hours "in the zone." Will spend the night up there because, even though I'll be spitting, enough alcohol gets into the bloodstream that I don't want to drive back to Oakland, especially on a Friday getaway afternoon. I'm never very hungry after a big tasting, so I'll probably head over to ZuZu for dinner and have a couple little plates of tapas, with some soul-refreshing Sherry.

Donelan 2008 Richards Family Syrah, Sonoma Valley. \$90, 140 cases, 14.2%. This is the winery formerly known as Pax, owned by Joe Donelan. The wines are crafted by Tyler Thomas. Also their 2009 Kobler Family Vineyard Syrah, from Green Valley, and the 2008 Cuvée Keltier Syrah, with a Sonoma County appellation.

Serious Syrahs.