

SWIRL THIS!

"It's not just a job, it's not just a hobby, it's a lifestyle." This is just one guy's opinion who happens to taste a few thousand wines in the course of a year. And as wine folk know, this is a thirsty business, so I wash it all down with an ale and maybe even a whiskey (Tequila or gin when the thermometer soars). So take this all with a shaker of salt and forgive me my misspellings.

Tuesday, March 04, 2008

Domaine du Tariquet

Wine Dinner @ Mon Ami Gabi

How often do you have a 5 course wine dinner with out red wines? Thanks to the good folks @ Kacher, this was a first for me.

1st course: the Classique (Ugni Banc/Colombard) w/ a scallop mousse & curry pineapple aioli.

The Classique is fresh & clean, w/ moderate alcohol & acidity. No wood, all pure fruit, but not cloying. Perfect w/ the dish.

2nd Course: Sauvignon Blanc w/ Squash soup & Lobster Tarragon dumping. A very clean style which the house strives for. No sulphites are added before crush or during fermentation. Acidity is moderate, but not quite zippy enough to cut through the sweetness of the soup.

3rd course: Chenin Blanc (75%)/ Chardonnay (25%) w/ poached Sea Bass. Still very clean, but w/ more oompff. A great combo, could have dined & drank on this all day & night.

4th course: Pork Loin w/ Creamy herbed Polenta & Chardonnay (30% new oak). Not my favorite pairing, but I'm generally predisposed to not liking Chardonnay w/ anything other than chicken or lobster.

2 of my dining mates dug it, so chalk it up to prejudice.

Dessert: Vanilla Orange Sabayon w/ Shortbread & Sauvignon

Blanc/Chardonnay. The best combo of the night. A veritable citrus fest.

If the wait staff had kept bringing this to me, I would have ingested both food & drink until I called for the bucket.

Kudos to the everyone @ Kacher & Mon Ami Gabi for putting on a white wine dinner (the other wine)! While I have to admit I'd rather have had a Pinot Noir w/ my pork, these wines generally out-classed themselves throughout the meal & I left thoroughly satisfied.
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 - ▼ [March](#) (1)
 - [Domaine du Tariquet](#)
- ► [2007](#) (3)
- ► [2006](#) (23)

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