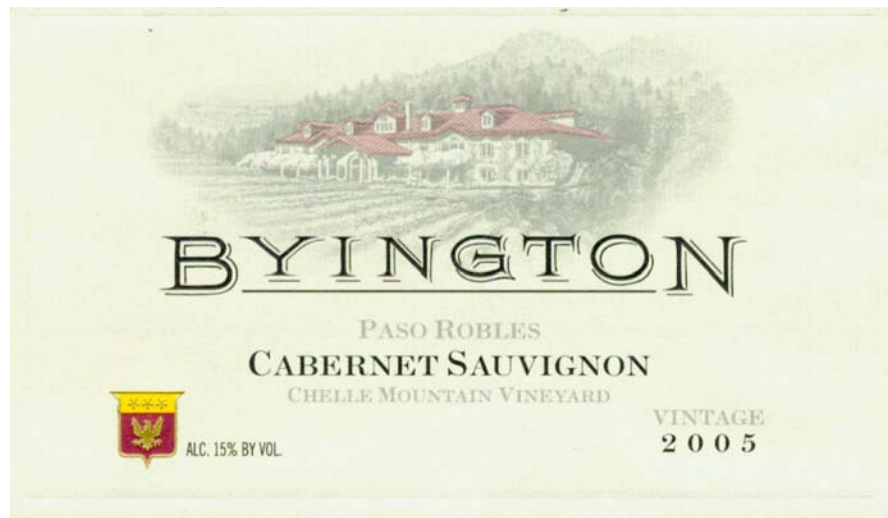


# COLLECTOR'S RED



<b>Appellation:</b>	Paso Robles
<b>Vineyard Designation:</b>	Chelle Mountain
<b>Production:</b>	422 cases

Climatic and geographical drama are both often associated with world class wines, and this Cabernet is no exception. Perched on a windy ridge on the west side of Paso Robles in the York Mountain area, Chelle Mountain gets the full effect of the coastal winds and the wide temperature swings those winds bring.

The 2005 Chelle Mountain Cabernet was fairly easy to make, a quick two week fermentation, followed by twenty months of barrel age in American Oak barrels, only one-third new oak. I decided to leave this wine unfiltered to retain some weight and the smooth mouthfeel typical of the Chelle Mountain wines.

The color is saturated, almost black, and the first whiff is intensely aromatic and concentrated. The nose is green olive and black cherry with a subtext of herbs to remind us that it is Cabernet. The oak is noticeable in the aroma with a hint of vanilla, but tightly bound and integrated, belying a light touch of new oak. As the wine opens in the glass it reveals a hint of cocoa, which should emerge with time. The tannic structure will allow this wine to age for some time to come. If you are looking to open a bottle tonight, may I recommend a decanter, a nicely marbled steak, and a little chocolate to help showcase this Cabernet.