

A Day in Paso Robles

When William and Katherine invited us to spend two nights at [The Canyon Villa](#), we jumped at the chance. As always, the **food, friendship, and accommodations were superb**. We got January off to a good start by spending a day in Paso Robles. And we found **two terrific wineries we did not know about**. As an added bonus, **we were the first to visit the tasting room at a third winery that doesn't even open until February**.



Lauren Rava and Leslee Falkenberg of Rava Wines (click for larger image)

We promised Lauren and Leslee that we wouldn't do a full write-up of **Rava Wines** until they release their full wine lineup next month. We'll just say that **what we tasted shows a lot of promise and potential**. We'll write a longer review in February. But you can taste their excellent sparkler and albariño right now. They are also pouring a selection of Brophy-Clark wines. (John Clark is doing double duty as the winemaker at both Brophy-Clark and Rava.) Make an appointment first. And ask for a tour of the spectacular facilities. By the way, Rava is a must-visit for the scenery, architecture, and good vibes. Those planning a wedding or other event should

consider this place.



Ryan and Grace (click for larger image)

Next up was [Deovlet Wines](#) (pronounced Dev'-let). We were greeted by **Ryan Deovlet and Grace**. Three outstanding pinot noirs led to one question: why haven't we found these folks before? It turns out that we had visited their tasting room once. But it was occupied by 4 Vines.



Dilecta dog wants to play

Finally, we arrived at [Dilecta](#). William and Katherine have their wines on The Canyon Villa's in-house wine list. We were greeted enthusiastically by the winery's golden retriever who was eager to play. **Owner – winemaker Orion Stang** rescued us from the puppy and proceeded to pour us some yummy GSMs. We're normally not big fans of Rhône-style blends, but Dilecta has made us believers.



Dilecta's Orion Stang and Tony (click for larger image)

Three for three on the day. And 2018 is off to a very, very good start.