

# The Luxurist™

Spirits & Wine Review - July, 2010

## Stolichnaya Vodka Elit

### Brand Notes

Stolichnaya is an authentic family of Russian vodkas, made in the traditional Russian manner using production techniques that date back to the fifteenth century. Only the very finest natural ingredients find their way into Stolichnaya.

### Notes

Aroma is dry, clean, and grainy, with background notes of parchment and litchi; later passes offer semisweet, mildly smoky/ashy scents of charcoal and smoldering embers. Palate entry is firm, moderately oily, bittersweet; at midpalate concentrated and spicy grain flavors mingle adroitly with the smoky, sap- and resin-sweet birch-charcoal filtering influence. Concludes sweetly and almost candy-like.

### Reviews

Sante' (01/01/2009) – Clean, neutral nose. Pure, rich and smooth from start to finish with a hint of citrus peel in the finish.

## Antler Hill™ Syrah - 2006 Napa Valley

### Brand Notes

The most visited winery in the United States isn't located in Napa Valley. It's at Biltmore in the mountains of North Carolina, where approximately 1 million visitors stop by to sample award-winning estate wines each year.

The first vineyards at Biltmore were established in 1971 in an area below Biltmore House. French-American hybrids were planted initially, with vinifera plantings following in a few years. Inspired after several years of experimenting, William A.V. Cecil, then president and owner of Biltmore, decided that a winery was the natural outcome of ongoing research and a logical extension of his grandfather's intention that the estate be self-supporting.

Demand for Biltmore Wine continues to rise. "We're excited about the growth of our winery and the attention it's been receiving," said Bill Cecil, Jr., current President and CEO of The Biltmore Company and great-grandson of estate owner George W. Vanderbilt. "North Carolina is gaining a reputation for producing quality wines and we hope to continue to lead the charge in educating wine enthusiasts and novices alike about what our state has to offer."

### Notes

This expressive full-bodied wine offers rich blackberry flavors and a complex aroma of spice, vanilla, and smoke. This well-balanced yet powerful wine is the perfect choice for braised meats.

**Color: RED Body: Full Sweet: Dry**

