



Stephan Asseo, owner and winemaker at L'Aventure Winery, began making wine in 1982. In that same year, Stephan established Domaine de Courteillac in Bordeaux. He and his family later purchased Chateau Fleur Cardinal and Chateau Robin in the Cotes de Castillon in Bordeaux. Over the next 15 years, Stephan developed into an artisan winemaker of fastidious craftsmanship and gained a "maverick" reputation. His true desire was to be more innovative than AOC law would allow. In 1996, this led him, his wife Beatrice and their 3 children, on a journey to pursue his ideal as a winemaker. In 1997, after one year of research, they fell in love with a unique terroir in the west side Paso Robles. And L'Aventure began in 1998!

L' AVENTURE OPTIMUS 2021

Bottled June 2023

Release Date: March 2024

55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Petit Verdot

100% Estate Grown Fruit from L'Aventure Vineyard

Very Low Yield: 2.5 Tons Per Acre

50% new French Oak, 50% 1-year Old French Oak with Malolactic Fermentation in Barrel

No Fining, No Filtering

Length Of Aging: 16 Months

Drink Window: 10+ Years

SRP: \$68 (formerly \$62)

93+ JEB DUNNUCK

Moving to the 2021s from bottle and starting with the 2021 Optimus (55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 18% Petit Verdot), it sports a deeper plum/purple hue as well as rocking notes of blackberries, peppery herbs, candied violets, and subtle meaty, savory nuances. It's medium to full-bodied and has a round, layered, silky texture and outstanding length. It's going to shine for 5-7 years, if not longer.

95 JAMES SUCKLING.COM

Ripe blackberries, cassis and plum skins with blood orange, anisette and wet stones on offer. Full-bodied with compact, refined tannins and velvety texture. Generous and plentiful with a deep core of black fruit and a spiced, chocolatey finish. Really well made. A blend of 55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon and 18% Petit Verdot. Drink or hold.

95 Robert Parker WINE ADVOCATE

The 2021 Optimus is an elegant, polished blend of 55% Syrah, 27% Cabernet Sauvignon and 18% Petit Verdot. It takes plenty of air to reveal maraschino cherry, blueberry, leather, aniseed, gravel dust and garrigue aromas. The full-bodied palate offers expansive, spicy fruit framed by powdery tannins and focused acidity, and it has a long, latent finish. It will benefit from 3-5 years in bottle.