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Moondance Cellars

By: Abigail Zimmerman

A Unique Blend of Music, Art & Wine!

Taking the pretension out of fine wines, David and Priscilla Cohen are thrilled to announce the grand opening of their new tasting room for Moondance Cellars.

Building on more than a decade of passion in the pursuit of wine, the Cohens created this new tasting room to share their unquenchable joy in wine (especially Cabernets) with any and all visitors.

We want everybody to love wine!" says David. "And we are not intimidating. Wine should not be intimidating."

Moondance Cellars Tasting Room is located in Glen Ellen at the historic Jack London Village. In keeping with the flavor of the 1860s building, the Cohens renovated using only salvaged materials. Hand hewn beams and discarded lumber, old window frames and warehouse doors add charm. Great jazz is always on the radio. This laid-back, dog-friendly space both welcomes visitors and draws your attention first and foremost to the wines. Opening "softly" on May 7, Moondance Cellars may have only been open mere weeks but it is sure to be a huge hit.

Specializing in Cabernet Sauvignons from three different Napa Valley vineyards and one from Sonoma Valley, Moondance wines showcase David's long love affair and work history producing these big, rich, sumptuous reds. Years ago as ranch manager for B.R. Cohn Winery, and under the tutelage of Helen Turley and the late John Speed of St. Francis Winery, David learned the art of wine- making. Don't ask him his favorite, he loves all of his Cabs equally.

For a \$5 tasting fee, guests will taste six wines ranging in price from \$10-\$65 per bottle. Current tastings include:

- 2007 Orchard Station Chardonnay: true to the grape – zesty citrus, spice and just a touch of oak, \$24
- 2007 Russian River Gewurztraminer: Bronze medal winner – rose petals, floral, and apricot notes galore, \$16
- 2005 Rutherford Bench Cabernet Sauvignon: Double Gold Best of Class! – concentrated

October 2010						
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fruit, superb balance and perfectly firm structure, only 15 barrels made, \$65

Moondance Cellars is thrilled to announce a new label, Life Unleashed, they are launching to celebrate and support Canine Companions for Independence (CCI). Fifteen percent of each bottle will be donated to CCI. This new release is coming this month and will likely be their wonderful 2007 Merlot.

David Cohen is a seasoned veteran of the wine business. He helped found the first winery co-op in the mid 1990s with Henry Mayo in Kenwood. A few years later, David worked to open the Wine Room with Tommy Smothers in Kenwood where he met and later married Priscilla who was the tasting room manager. For the following 12 years, David and Priscilla have sold Moondance Cellars and even began two more, still successful labels. Orchard Station and Friendly Dog Winery are alive and well and also available for tasting and purchase at the new tasting room today.

One great facet to the new tasting room is the superb selection of gourmet oils, spices, sauces and mustards. Made solely for Moondance Cellars, the grapeseed oils and mustards are only available for purchase at the tasting room. Don't miss the Sweet Hot Beer, Smoky Garlic Onion and Champagne Raspberry Honey mustards!

For the truly decadent pairing, pick up tantalizing chocolates next door at Wine Country Chocolates. The Zinfandel truffle is exquisite with any of David's Cabs!

Open Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., the tasting room is wheelchair accessible and of course, dog friendly!

Moondance Cellars is located at 14301 Arnold Drive, Glen Ellen. For more information, call (707) 823-0880 or visit the website at moondancecellars.com.

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