



## PRIVATE CELLARS

*The wines offered in Auberge du Soleil's new club are exclusive.*

"I DO THE WORK of having to kiss all the frogs," Auberge du Soleil Sommelier Kris Margerum says. He's referring to the hundreds of wines he tastes each month, searching for those "princes" of exceptional quality for the resort's new Club Vin du Soleil. Members receive four to six

bottles per quarter, and most aren't available to the general public.

Although the Club Vin du Soleil selections always include Napa's best, members also receive limited-production wines from around the world. There are three club levels, and each comes with

additional perks, like invitations to special events and discounts at the resort. Here's a preview of what members will receive this fall:

### **CRU LEVEL** (\$325 quarterly)

- The 2008 Duckhorn The Discussion is a new, very limited-production Cabernet blend with a well-balanced, fruit-forward structure that works well with heartier meat dishes.

### **PREMIER CRU** (\$600 quarterly)

- The 2007 Paradigm Cabernet Sauvignon is one of Margerum's favorites from a winery that does a wonderful job making balanced, food-friendly Cabernets.

### **GRAND CRU MEMBERSHIP** (24 members; \$1,250 quarterly)

- The 2007 Kathryn Hall Exzellenz is a 100 percent Cabernet that has higher acidity than others, but with a little more red fruit. It will need to be cellared for at least five years.

For more information about Club Vin du Soleil, visit [aubergedusoleil.com/club-vin-du-soleil](http://aubergedusoleil.com/club-vin-du-soleil) or call 707/963-1211.—*Gayle Keck*



### **ONLY THE BEST**

*From left: Fertile vineyards are the stars throughout Napa Valley; Kris Margerum calls on his connections to obtain premium club wines.*