

Diablo Magazine
Best Of The East Bay 2007
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Food

Editor pick

New Winery

Despite Livermore's rapid development in the past few years, it still has a few country roads. Les Chênes Estate Vineyards, the area's newest winery, sits at the end of one such path, stoney Victoria Lane, just off Tesla Road.

Richard and Candice Dixon officially opened Les Chênes, which means the oaks in French, this spring. The winery produces balanced Syrah and a muscular red blend called Deux Rouge with the grapes Richard carefully grows on the property. Les Chênes was once a wheat farm scattered with old chicken coops, but the Dixons spent eight years converting the site to vineyards, a winery and tasting room, and their home, complete with a prolific rose garden.

All the samples are free, but you might find yourself wanting to buy some land of your own at the end of a country road.

Les Chênes Estate Vineyards, 5562 Victoria La., Livermore, (925) 373-1662, www.leschenesvine.com. —Kathryn Jessup