

New Arrivals

Impress out-of-town guests at the welcome dinner with a giant charcuterie platter of bresaola and mostarda at the urbane new **Bestia** in downtown L.A. (bestiala.com), or a rustic Italian market spread of pastas in the private dining room at Jackson Square's beloved **Cotogna** (cotognasf.com). And, combined with former A16 chef as consultant and a smart drinks list, look for newcomer **Pizzardo** (pizzardohealdsburg.com) warming up near Charlie Palmer's **Hotel Healdsburg** in Sonoma (hotelhealdsburg.com).

FROM ABOVE
Bestia, L.A.
Cotogna, S.F.
Hotel Healdsburg,
Sonoma County.



Scharffenberger
Brut Rosé, \$25.
2012 Lioco Indica
Rosé, \$16.

SIP ON THESE

Is a \$25 price point for reception bottles enough to appease the most discerning family members? Daniel Patterson Group Wine Director **Peter Birmingham** makes the case: I can't think of another CA sparkler that does what **Scharffenberger** is doing. • For whites, seek out **Fanucchi Vineyards** Trousseau Gris, Russian River Valley. fanucchivineyards.com. • **Saracina Vineyard** (saracina.com) and **Lioco** (liocowine.com) both produce white, red and rosé. • My unsung favorite: decanted **Cabot Syrah** (cabotvineyards.com)—like a California Jean-Louis Chave from the '70s!

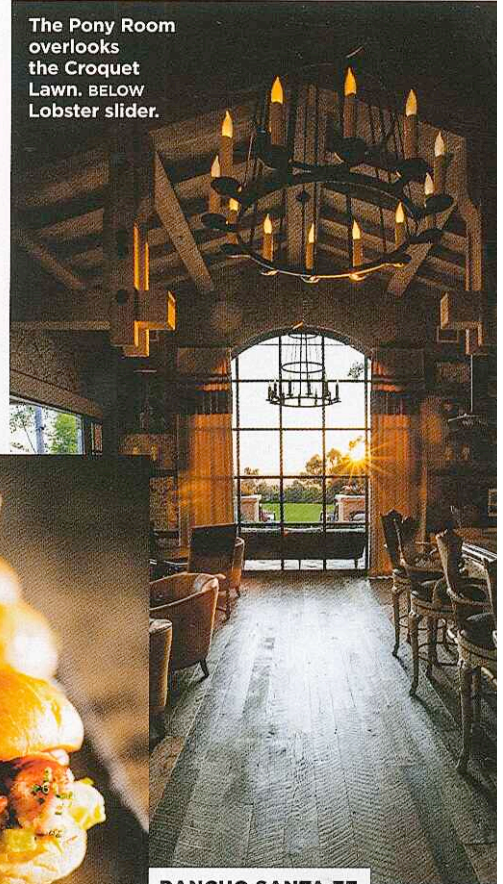
COSTA MESA

HOLE IN ONE

Following a smattering of secret tastings, Brooke Des Prez and Sumter Pendergrast are set to open **Sidecar Doughnuts**, an old-fashioned bakery fulfilling your dessert table yen for lemon-infused buttermilk fritters. 270 E. 17th St., C.M.; sidecardoughnuts.com.



The Pony Room
overlooks
the Croquet
Lawn. BELOW
Lobster slider.



RANCHO SANTA FE SADDLE UP



Perfect for a rehearsal dinner that's sure to dip late into the night: the new **Pony Room** at reopened **Rancho Valencia**. Around the fire pits with a craft tequila or Prosecco from the tap, party-goers—up to 85 indoors and out—can enjoy the resort's laid-back, yet luxe approach to sumptuous ingredients—wood-roasted trout, blistering flatbreads and Chino Farms bounty among them. Lobster sliders, anyone? 858-756-1123; ranchovalencia.com.

COTOGNA: ERIC WOLFINGER