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# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE

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## How to be a better **HOUSEGUEST**

A Labor Day invitation to a friend's vacation home is the ultimate summer get. Here's how to make sure you're asked back.

### **1** SAY YES TO THE ADDRESS

A spare bedroom in a prime location is a rare commodity, and your host shouldn't be held hostage while you consider other possibilities or figure out who's going to care for your cat. Honor the request with a reply within a few days at most. Unlike dating, this three-day rule matters.

### **2** OUT-HOST YOUR HOST

"Can I bring anything?" Um, of course you can. Don't be silly and dull. Instead, offer to cook dinner Saturday or Sunday night. Ask what they like, and arrive with all of your ingredients (and a cookbook or two to leave behind). Let your hosts relax while you man the kitchen and grill. Other guests may be late coming back from the beach or a bike ride, so plan dishes that can be prepped early on and then finished on the grill or stovetop at the last minute.

### **3** POUR THE PINK

Whether your Labor Day digs are a cabin in the country or a beach house, stuff the ice bucket with high-end rosés. The pink drink is like white shoes—best enjoyed before school starts. Head to the Provence section of your wine shop and score a few bottles of Chêne Bleu Rosé or Château d'Esclans Garrus. Expecting a bigger crowd? Load up on a few cost-effective cases of Jean-Luc Colombo Cape Bleu Rosé.

—Mike DeSimone  
and Jeff Jossen



TODD HUFFMAN