

SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION



**WINE ENTHUSIAST**  
MAGAZINE

THE INSIDERS' GUIDE TO

# CALIFORNIA

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Where to Dine  
Where to Stay

# 87

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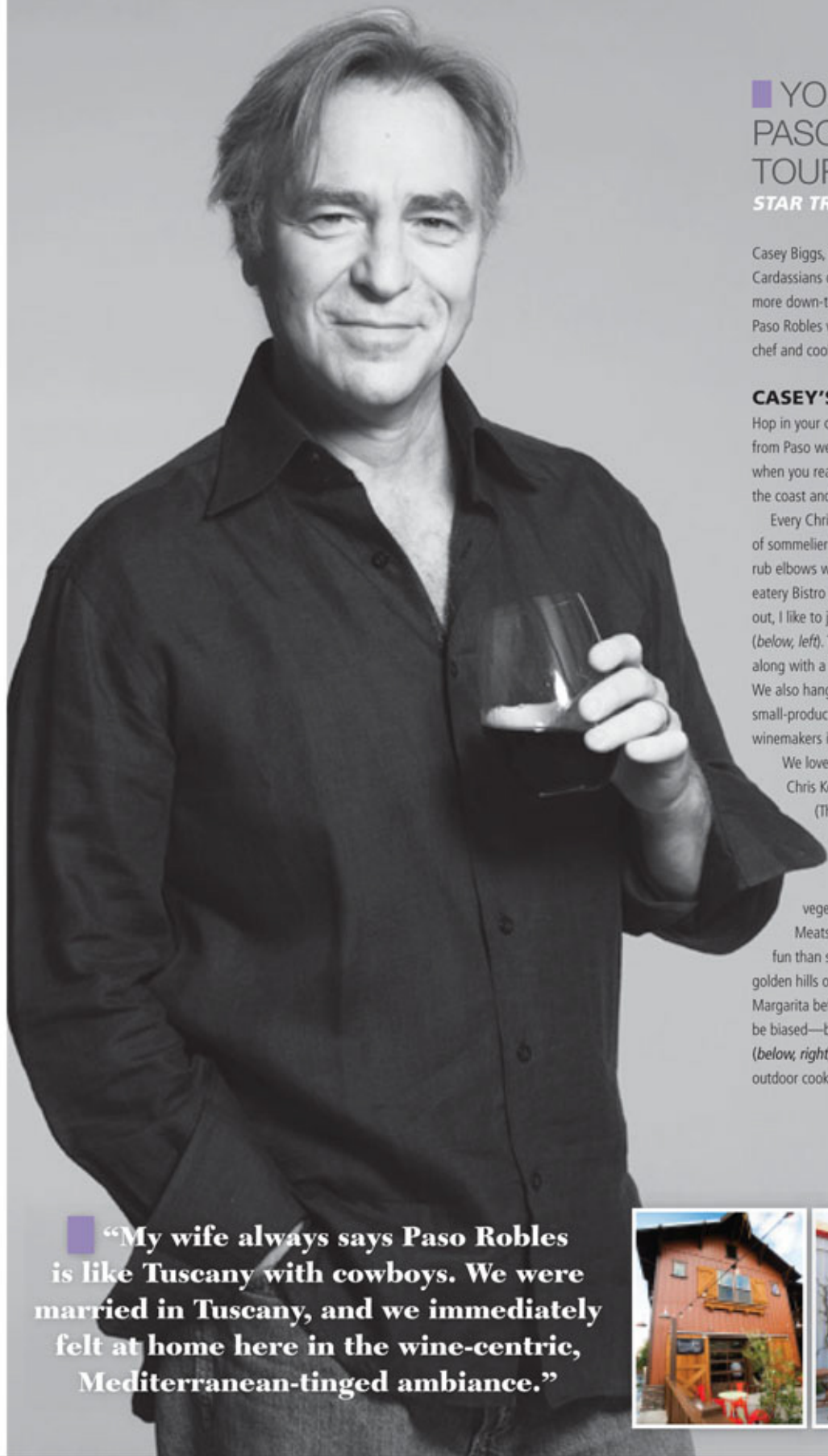
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“My wife always says Paso Robles is like Tuscany with cowboys. We were married in Tuscany, and we immediately felt at home here in the wine-centric, Mediterranean-tinged ambiance.”

## YOUR PASO ROBLES TOUR GUIDE: STAR TREK'S CASEY BIGGS.

Casey Biggs, known to Trekkies as Damar, leader of the Cardassians on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, has found a more down-to-earth role as *Paso Man*, the iconic face of Paso Robles wine. He lives in Paso Robles with his wife, chef and cookbook author Brigit Binns.

### CASEY'S PICKS

Hop in your car and hit the 26-mile stretch of Route 46 from Paso west. You'll pass stunning vineyard vistas, and when you reach the crest, there is a breathtaking view of the coast and the Pacific.

Every Christmas Eve we put ourselves in the hands of sommelier Ian Adamo and chef Laurent Grangien—and rub elbows with local cowboy royalty—at world-class eatery *Bistro Laurent* in downtown Paso. For casual nights out, I like to join the crew at wine-bar *15c* in Templeton (below, left). The region's best wines are front-and-center, along with a revolving menu of wine-friendly snacks.

We also hang out at brand-new *Paso Underground* for small-production wines from four passionate young winemakers including Aaron Jackson and Edmond August.

We love the farmers market in Templeton—chefs Chris Kobayashi (*Artisan*) and Julie Simon

(*Thomas Hill Organics*) are often browsing the impeccable produce there on Saturday mornings. It's strictly local and seasonal, and it's where we pick up all our fresh vegetables—plus a bone from *Charter Oaks Meats* for our dog, Stella. What could be more fun than soaring like an eagle over the oaks and golden hills on the zip line at *Ancient Peaks* in Santa Margarita before sipping their terrific wine? And—I may be biased—but there is nothing like the fire at *Refugio* (below, right), where my wife Brigit teaches rustic outdoor cooking classes.”



PORTRAIT: ANDREW MCPHERSON. IMAGE AT BOTTOM LEFT: BRITTANY APP