

## Wine Down with Spec's Episode: Mirassou Winery with David Mirassou

by Collin Williams

There is something to be said about long standing traditions. In fact, the wine industry is full of traditions, along with stories, successes and failures, and ambitious pioneers. Odds are that behind every wine label is a unique story about a family's love affair with wine or just one man's dream to own a winery.

Mirassou is just such a concept that resonates with these long standing traditions. Now on its 6th generation of ownership, the Mirassou Winery is the oldest winemaking family in the United States. Sure, you may have noticed these wines in your neighborhood Spec's along with nearly every retail shelf across the country. However, it's seldom that anyone thinks about all of the effort and influence that goes into each bottle of wine.

What started with an ambitious man from France who wished to start a new life in California during the Gold Rush of the 1800's has now continued to blossom into one of the great family-owned wineries in the country. Interesting to note: while traveling from France to the United States onboard a ship, Pierre Pellier (great grandfather of the Mirassou Family) was forced to plant his grape vines inside potatoes in order to secure their survival during the journey!

It is stories like this and others that I recently learned while sitting down with David Mirassou (6th generation) on another Episode of Wine Down with Spec's. Check out our latest posting as David and I discuss the history of his family in the wine biz, the future of the Mirassou Winery, and taste through a couple of his excellent wines.


<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3BAIhgInYU>

### Mirassou Pinot Noir 2010 \$7.79 cash

I love a good Pinot Noir that is easy to drink and easy on the wallet. This offering from the Mirassou winery has to be one the best selling – value Pinots in large distribution. Floral with some cherry and blackberry fruity components, enjoy this one with your friends and family during the holidays.



### Mirassou Moscato 2010 \$7.79 cash

This wine took me by surprise! I've had my fill of Moscatos and am very familiar with the flavor profiles, but this one from Mirassou was quite different. Highlighting more of the citrus fruit notes (orange, tangerine), this wine was easy to drink, not too sweet, and could easily pair well with a whole range of food. 



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