

SAVEUR

Savor a World of Authentic Cuisine

The Saveur **100**

December 24, 2012

Dolce Wine

In each sip of this sunny dessert wine from the Napa Valley, an almost cotton candy sweetness gives way to a damp-forest undercurrent that blooms into sensations from fruity to dry, lush to acidic. It's so complex, you've got to wonder at the magic that produced it. As it turns out, the wine is made by leaving plump *sémillon* and *sauvignon blanc* grapes to shrivel on the vine, where the scourge of other vineyards, the mold *botrytis*, or "noble rot," takes hold of them, concentrating sugars and imparting a unique richness. The result is a libation we love as an *apéritif* with salty *charcuterie*, as well as with cheese or a tart at meal's end.

