

SUMMER 2005

Savor

WineCountry

Sweet life



Jess Jackson
What drives this opinionated billionaire?

The Napa River
New energy, fun, summer events at water's edge

Stags Leap
A close-up look at the valley within a valley

STAGS LEAP

A PLACE TO STAY

There are dozens of bed-and-breakfast inns and high-end resorts within a few miles of Stags Leap. But the Poetry Inn, a Craftsman-style lodge wedged on a hillside east of Silverado Trail, is the only public accommodation in the Stags Leap District.

The luxury inn, which opened in May after extensive renovation, is owned by Cliff and Cheryl Lede, the proprietors of Cliff Lede Vineyards. From its lofty perch, Poetry Inn not only overlooks the Cliff Lede Vineyards but much of the Napa Valley to the west and the Stags Leap District to the south.

The inn continues "the poetry of life" theme that Cliff Lede, a Canadian businessman, has embraced to guide his art-laden winery. His collector's wine is called "Poetry," a line of limited-production Cabernet Sauvignon from the Napa Valley.

The inn has five rooms: three available for nightly rental and two suites reserved for extended stays. Each room has a wood-burning fireplace, soaking tub and outdoor shower.

Guests can play vintner for the night by choosing a vintage wine from the inn's well-stocked wine cellar.

Be prepared to pay for luxury. Room rates are \$475 to \$850 a night Dec. 1 through May 31; \$575 to \$1,250 a night June 1 through Nov. 30. The Poetry Inn, 6380 Silverado Trail near the Yountville Cross Road in Yountville. 707-944-0646.



The Poetry Inn's menu features gazpacho timbale served with sun-deviled eggs and garnished with yellow pepper.

