

EXCLUSIVE—First Look at 2004 Bordeaux

# Wine Spectator

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## Luxury to the Hilt at New Inn in Napa

Northern California wine country has two new inns where well-heeled travelers can rest their heads after a day of tasting and touring the vineyards.

Poetry Inn is an exclusive bed-and-breakfast located near Yountville, within easy range of Napa Valley's top wine appellations.

Poetry Inn is the brainchild of developer Cliff Lede, who in 2002 bought the former S. Anderson sparkling-wine house and turned it into an up-and-coming Cabernet player. In 2003, he purchased the Cross Roads Inn, an aging Band B overlooking Yountville from the Stags Leap foothills. He has spent millions on transforming it into an inn that rivals Napa's Auberge du Soleil and Meadowood hotels in sumptuousness.

Though small, Poetry Inn provides plenty of privacy. The three rooms—named after poets Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost and Robert

Louis Stevenson—range in size from 850 square feet to 1,450 square feet. They are done in a Craftsman-style decor, with comfortable yet modern furnishings, rich textures and soothing colors. Each room boasts a wood-burning fireplace, a large soaking-tub and a private

deck with an outdoor shower, year-round heaters and striking vistas of the valley. "We wanted people to feel like they were coming home," Lede said of the inn's design.

Breakfast is served in the common room or can be taken privately in your room. A first-class wine cellar is in the works; Lede said guests will be able to purchase collectibles not only from Napa but from around the world.