

**Amicus Cellars | X Winery****2005 X Winery Petite Sirah
(Paso Robles)**

Winemaker and CEO Reed Renaudin founded Amicus & X Winery in 2001. With an MBA from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a BS from UC Davis under his belt, he went on to work with Gallo of Sonoma, Heitz, and Cuvaison as well as at an Australian winery before launching this venture. The goal was to offer primarily Bordeaux varieties Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc, along with small lots of Chardonnay, Petite Sirah, and Zinfandel all in the \$10-\$25 range.

This Paso Robles Petite Sirah is blended with 10 percent Syrah from the Carneros AVA in the Napa Valley and 5 percent Cabernet Sauvignon from the High Valley AVA in Lake County. It is bright, opaque ruby, and very viscous. The nose has inviting raspberry and vanilla notes, and an undercurrent of rhubarb. There is also an immediate impression of hefty alcohol. On the palate, first impressions are earthy – mulch, truffle, and mushroom. It is round and creamy with luscious dark berry fruit and spearmint, black and red licorice notes. Vanillans come out on the finish. Though the wine is already expressive, it would benefit from being decanted for aeration in advance of serving.

Reviewed January 16, 2008 by [Catherine Fallis](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [Amicus Cellars | X Winery](#)

Vintage: 2005

Wine: X Winery Petite Sirah

Appellation: [Paso Robles](#)

Grapes: [Petite Sirah](#) (85%), [Syrah / Shiraz](#) (10%), [Cabernet Sauvignon](#) (5%)

Price: \$24.99

THE REVIEWER**Catherine Fallis**

Founder and President of Planet Grape LLC, a company committed to bringing the joy of wine, food, and good living into the lives of everyday people, Catherine is creator of the “grape goddess guides to good living,” a series of books, television presentations,

seminars, and e-learning programs. The fifth woman in the world to become a Master Sommelier, grape goddess Catherine Fallis is still very much down-to-earth.