



## California Strikes Oil

Our massive taste test of 65 artisanal olive oils revealed Pasolivo to be one of California's best. Here, a splendid harvest meal with the family behind it.

BY JANE SIGAL PHOTOGRAPHS BY RAY KACHATORIAN



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### Olive Oil Taste-Test Winners

In an F&W tasting of 65 artisanal extra-virgin olive oils from California, Willow Creek Olive Ranch's Pasolivo was one of the best (\$25 for 500 ml; 805-227-0186 or pasolivo.com).

Other standouts:

**Apollo 2005 Mistral Organic** A soft, round and buttery blend of Provençal varieties. **DETAILS** \$20 for 500 ml; 530-692-2314 or apollooliveoil.com.

**Lila Jaeger** A mix of old-world (Aglandau, Boutellian) olives; unctuous, smooth and peppery. **DETAILS** \$24 for 375 ml; 800-676-7176 or katzandco.com.

**Olivina Estate Mission** A full-bodied oil with herbal and bitter flavors, made from olives grown on century-old trees. **DETAILS** \$18 for 375 ml; 925-455-8710 or theolivina.com.

**Skipstone Ranch Melina's Harvest** Produced from Manzanillo olives; fruity and spicy with a long, green-olive finish. **DETAILS** \$25 for 375 ml; 707-433-9124 or skipstoneranch.com.

**Stonehouse House Oil** A nicely balanced mix of olives, including Sevillano and Arbequina.

**DETAILS** \$11 for 500 ml; 800-865-4836 or stonehouseoliveoil.com.