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LINGER OVER THESE WINES DURING LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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Summer might be winding down but it doesn't mean your palate has to fade into fall. Here are five fun-filled and flavorful wines to keep summer's spirit alive through the Labor Day weekend.

Double-down deal of the week: The Leese-Fitch Adobe building is a cultural landmark in Sonoma, and pre-dates California's 1850 statehood by 14 years. Leese-Fitch honors California's early history. Unassuming yet overachieving, Leese-Fitch crafts high quality, value wines, and in 2017 posted record sales of 271,372 cases. Since 2009, Leese-Fitch has been part of 3 Badge Beverage Corp., launched by August Sebastiani in the original Sonoma firehouse that his grandfather helped build. Two splendid offerings are now on sale in Massachusetts and N.H. outlets. The first is Leese-Fitch Firehouse Red Wine 2016, an incredibly smooth blend of petit sirah, zinfandel, merlot, mourvedre, syrah and tempranillo that pairs well with grilled meats,

3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION

especially sausages smothered in peppers and onions. The second is Leese-Fitch Chardonnay 2018, which gets a 10% splash of fragrant viognier. The wine oozes with a silky, whipped cream texture and plenty of nectarine, lemon zest, baked apple and vanilla nuances. The two-bottle combo is a solid Sonoma celebration for the long weekend ahead.

LEESE-FITCH / FIREHOUSE RED AND CHARDONNAY