grilled poussin with shallot balsamic butter

Wonderfully aromatic, this Frenchinspired dish will make you say ooh la la. Balsamic glaze is available at most supermarkets near the vinegar. (Shown on this issue's cover with game hens.)

Serves 4

FOR THE SEASONING

- 4 large cloves garlic, mashed to a paste (about 2 Tbs.)
- 1 Tbs. finely chopped fresh tarragon
- 1 Tbs. finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- ½ tsp. kosher salt
- ½ tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- 2 Tbs. olive oil; more for the grill
- 4 poussin (1 to 1½ lb. each), spatchcocked (see facing page), or spatchcocked birds of your choice from the list on the facing page

FOR THE GLAZE

- 1/2 cup apple juice
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1 Tbs. green olive tapenade

FOR THE BUTTER

- 1 Tbs. finely chopped shallot
- 2 tsp. balsamic glaze
- ½ tsp. Espelette pepper or hot paprika
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 2 oz. (4 Tbs.) unsalted butter, softened

FOR THE GARNISH

Chopped fresh tarragon Flaky sea salt (optional)

Follow the directions on the facing page, using the times shown for the bird of your choice.

Pair With: CHARDONNAY Grilling and the flavors it imparts make this dish hefty enough to match a rich white like Chardonnay. Choose a fruity one.

