



1 BRYANT FAMILY VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY 2014

Aromatic and vivid with blackberry, fresh mushroom, blackcurrant and flowers. Full-bodied, firm and very silky. Tightly wound ball of silk. Extremely long and linear. Fine-grained. Lasts for minutes. Reminiscent of the great Napa reds of the 1950s and '60s. Best in 2025 but superb now. Greatest Bryant ever. ● 100 points

TOP OF THE CROPS

There has never been a better time to buy quality wines produced in the Napa and Sonoma valleys of California. The state does precision and pure fruit character so well. From a fresh and balanced 2014 Oakville cabernet to a bold and bright 2015 Sonoma Coast pinot, these are the wines that you must drink, writes James Suckling in nominating his top 10 Napa and Sonoma wines of 2017



4 SCREAMING EAGLE NAPA VALLEY 2014

Extremely perfumed with blackberry, currants and flowers. Rose petals, too. Seductive. Medium to full body. It grows on the palate with an extremely long finish that goes on for minutes. The tannins are ultra-fine and polished. Purity and essence to this. Feminine yet wild and unpredictable. Available in March. Better in 2021. ● 99 points



2 SCHRADER CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY BECKSTOFFER LAS PIEDRAS VINEYARDS COLESWORTH 2014

This is phenomenal, with blackberry and blueberry, not to mention incredible stone and black tea. What a nose. Full-bodied and so tight and dense yet agile and austere, with so much going on. Fantastic balance. One of the best Schraders ever. Better in four or five years, yet wonderful now. Only in magnum. ● 100 points

3 COLGIN CELLARS CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY TYCHSON HILL VINEYARD 2014

Fantastic aromas of sweet tobacco, rose petal, mushroom and dark fruit such as raspberry and currants. Citrus blossom, too. Full body, firm and velvety tannins, yet this remains tight and polished. Very reserved and beautiful. Subtle texture. Savoury. You are going to want to drink this now but it's a beauty built for ageing. The purity of cabernet sauvignon (95%) is spellbinding. ● 100 points



5 ABREU NAPA VALLEY MADRONA RANCH 2014

Love the blackberry, tar, dark mushroom and flowers. Perfumed to the max. Full-bodied, super velvety and refined. Glorious. Dense and so long yet vivid. What finesse. You want to take this home. Incredible length and texture. Blend of cabernet sauvignon (56%), cabernet franc (27%), petit verdot (9%) and merlot (8%). ● 99 points



**6 PETER MICHAEL WINERY
NAPA VALLEY OAKVILLE
AU PARADIS 2014**

Extremely perfumed with iron, clay and currant character. Copper pennies and hints of steak. Then this turns to flowers, iodine and oyster shell. Full body that's juicy and defined by hefty blackcurrant flavours and real meatiness. Dark-chocolate and orange-peel undertones. Extremely long and flavourful. About three-fourths cabernet sauvignon, the rest being cabernet franc. Excellent follow-up to the 2013. ● **99 points**

**7 CONTINUUM NAPA
VALLEY SAGE MOUNTAIN
VINEYARD 2014**

Fabulous aromas of blueberry, blackcurrant, sage and mint. Lead pencil and graphite, too. Full body and ultra-fine tannins that are slowly transformed to ripe and beautiful fruit. Super polished and textured. Great finish. Drink in 2022, but it's hard not to drink now. This harkens back to the great Mondavi reserves of the 1970s in texture and construction.

● **99 points**



**8 LITTORAI PINOT NOIR
SONOMA COUNTY
SONOMA VALLEY
SONOMA COAST THE
HAVEN VINEYARD 2015**

Crazy aromas of Chinese spice, soy and dark fruit. Dark mushroom. Full body, incredible depth and intensity. Electric finish. Stone, mineral, spice. What a presence. Better in 2020 but gorgeous now. ● **99 points**



**9 REALM CELLARS NAPA
VALLEY FARELLA
VINEYARD 2014**

Dark berries, sliced mushroom, wet earth and fascinating intensity. Iodine undertones. Full-bodied, velvety and layered. Incredible depth and length. Truly fantastic. Shows the Coombsville magic. Pure cabernet. Napa's answer to 1975 La Mission? Beautiful now but better in 2022. ● **99 points**



**10 PAUL HOBBS
CABERNET
SAUVIGNON
NAPA VALLEY OAKVILLE
BECKSTOFFER TO
KALON 2014**

Amazing aromas of Chinese spices, sweet tobacco, incense, anise and dark fruit. Full-bodied, yet tight and reserved. Great density and polish. An entrancing wine. Lasts for minutes on the palate. Already a dream to drink but will improve magnificently. ● **99 points**



1 To see the top 100 Napa and Sonoma wines of the year, visit jamesuckling.com