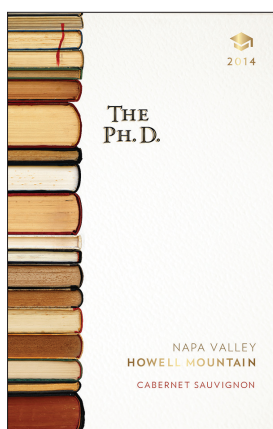


# Wine & Spirits

## Year's Best US Cabernets

### 93 | **Roots Run Deep**

**2014 Howell Mountain The Ph.D Cabernet Sauvignon** This is 100 percent Howell Mountain cabernet, the wine Mark Albrecht and his team consider the top selection from their 2014 Reserve series. It's more powerful and stony in its tannins than the other three, which blend in fruit from other vineyards (all three are recommended here). This wine has the dark chocolate density and smoky earthiness of cabernet grown in volcanic soils. That earthiness surrounds lasting red-plum flavors, almost liqueur-like in their richness. This is a powerful and gracious mountain wine with a long life ahead. *Reviewed by Joshua Greene.*

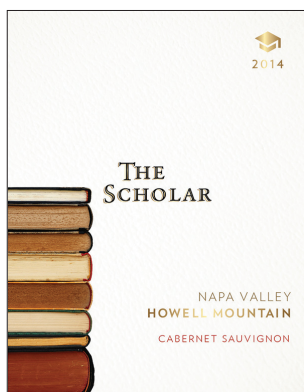


# Wine & Spirits

## Year's Best US Cabernets

### 92 | Roots Run Deep

**2014 Howell Mountain The Scholar Cabernet Sauvignon** In 2014, Mark Albrecht and his team produced four variations on cabernet from a high-elevation vineyard on Howell Mountain, blending in differing amounts of Coombsville merlot and Napa Valley cabernet. The Scholar is the fruitiest, its dark cherry and cassis flavors dripping with juiciness. It's an unusual Howell Mountain red, mountain grown in the service of overt deliciousness, immediately rich and accessible. *Reviewed by Joshua Greene.*

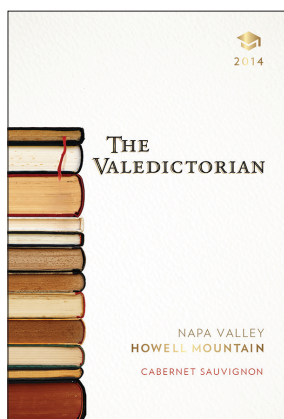


# Wine & Spirits

## Year's Best US Cabernets

### 90 | **Roots Run Deep**

**2014 Howell Mountain The Valedictorian Cabernet Sauvignon** A variation on RRD's 2014 Reserve, this one includes 85 percent Howell Mountain cabernet, softened by Coombsville merlot. It shares the plummy sweetness of The Scholar and The Ph.D., along with some of the violet highlights. The difference is in the tannins, which are beefy—the condensed flavor of beef broth, the umami of slow-smoked ribs, the charry notes of the crispy bits on a seared steak. This is a wine for carnivores, or for those who recently gave up meat and miss it. *Reviewed by Joshua Greene.*



# Wine & Spirits

## Year's Best US Cabernets

### 90 | Roots Run Deep

**2014 Napa Valley Hypothesis Cabernet Sauvignon (Best Buy)** Mark Albrecht founded Roots Run Deep in 2005, with the goal of making exceptional and affordable Napa Valley cabernet. This wine performs far above its \$40 price, delivering a cool and generous cabernet with floral scents of anise and primary grape flavors that lean toward pomegranate. The tannins form a simple structure, expanding the dimension of the wine without contributing flavor (perhaps the result of using flash détente on 45 percent of the grapes). Bright and fresh, this is ready for roast duck. *Reviewed by Joshua Greene.*

