

ANNUAL CALIFORNIA CABERNET ISSUE

Wine Spectator

www.winespectator.com

**2007
CABERNET**

**A STUNNING
VINTAGE**

**MORE THAN 190
RATE 90+**

**DISCOVER
MONTEREY WINE
COUNTRY**

**A PERFECT MATCH
FROM SONOMA**

**CLASSIC WHITES
FROM ALSACE**

**FRED
SCHRADER**
**A NEW STAR
IN NAPA**

NOV. 15, 2010
\$5.95 US



JAMES LAUBE'S RECOMMENDED CALIFORNIA CABERNETS

Nearly 575 wines were reviewed for this report. An alphabetical list begins on page 79 and is available at www.winespectator.com/111510. WineSpectator.com members can access complete reviews for all wines tasted using the online Wine Ratings search.

TOP WINES (continued)

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
DANA Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford Helms Vineyard 2007 Slow to unfold, but once it does this reveals a complex mix of dried currant, black licorice, blackberry, sage and mineral.	96	\$275
HARLAN ESTATE Napa Valley 2007 Intense and a bit rustic, with loamy earth, dried currant, black licorice, mocha, roasted herb, porcini and toasty oak.	96	\$500
JOSEPH PHELPS Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Backus 2007 A stylish, elegant youngster, with vivid mocha-covered raspberry, blackberry and licorice flavors. Tight and focused.	96	\$250
JOSEPH PHELPS Insignia Napa Valley 2007 Massive yet well-proportioned, with graphite, dried currant, berry, black tea and forest floor flavors. Cabernet Sauvignon blend.	96	\$225
RAMEY Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Pedregal Vineyard 2007 Ripe and powerful, rich and chewy, with a dense core of loamy earth, caraway, dried currant, savory herb and mineral notes.	96	\$150
SCHRADER CELLARS Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford GIII Beckstoffer Georges III Vineyard 2007 Broad, rich and layered, with creamy oak woven in with ripe currant and blackberry fruit. Full-blown and persistent.	96	\$300
STAGLIN INEO Napa Valley 2007 An elegant style, with complex aromatics of ripe plum, blackberry, flowers, mocha and espresso. Cabernet Sauvignon blend.	96	\$250
VENGE Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Family Reserve 2007 A big, ripe style that's rough-hewn and chunky, yet deep and concentrated, with plum, cherry, red licorice and mineral notes.	96	\$125

TOP VALUES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
COHO Headwaters Napa Valley 2007 Firm, rich, vibrant and focused, with a taut band of dried currant, mineral, plum and spice. Cabernet Sauvignon blend.	95	\$40
HALL Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2006 A dense, concentrated style, with mocha and black licorice hints rounding out the core currant, plum and black cherry flavors.	94	\$40
ROUND POND ESTATE Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford 2007 Chewy and robust, with rich, focused flavors of blackberry, currant, cedar, herb and mineral, gaining depth and persistence.	94	\$50
BEAULIEU VINEYARD Tapestry Reserve Napa Valley 2007 Structured and intense, with notes of spice, dried currant, blackberry, mocha, cedar and licorice. Cabernet Sauvignon blend.	93	\$50
RAMEY Claret Napa Valley 2007 Restrained, yet rich and flavorful, with a mix of cedar, currant, cigar box, tar and mineral. Cabernet Sauvignon blend.	93	\$38
DRY CREEK The Mariner Dry Creek Valley 2006 Sleek and focused, with layers of ripe plum, black cherry, currant, black licorice, mineral and spice. Cabernet Sauvignon blend.	92	\$40
HONIG Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007 Marked by herb, dill, cedar, sage and dried currant flavors, this well-structured red is both supple and tight at points.	92	\$40

TOP VALUES (continued)

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
PEDEMONTTE Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford 2007 Offers a pleasantly earthy, tobacco-laced mix of dried currant, sage, espresso, plum and black licorice flavors.	92	\$26
PROVENANCE Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford 2007 Aromas of fresh earth and mineral are taut and firm on the palate, with notes of dried currant, sage, cedar and crushed rock.	91	\$42
SODARO Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Felicity 2006 Coffee, herb, sage, mineral and cedar notes are joined by ripe currant and berry flavors that are elegant and stylish.	91	\$40
GALLO FAMILY Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Creek Valley Frei Ranch Vineyard 2007 This is marked by a rich, focused mix of dark berry fruits, showing notes of blackberry, wild berry, plum and cedar.	90	\$35
CAMERON HUGHES Cabernet Sauvignon Red Hills Lake County Lot 168 2006 Combines ripe, rich flavors with finesse and grace, offering spicy red currant, black licorice, creamy oak and spice.	89	\$12
B.R. COHN Cabernet Sauvignon North Coast Silver Label 2007 Trim, elegant and focused, with spice, dill, cedar, black cherry and plum flavors. Ends with delicate fruit and cedar notes.	88	\$20
MARTIN RAY Cabernet Sauvignon Napa-Mendocino-Sonoma Counties 2007 Appealingly pure, ripe plum, blackberry and black cherry fruit is supple, balanced and persistent, ending with cedary notes.	88	\$20
ROOTS RUN DEEP Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Educated Guess 2007 Intense and firm, with a wild edge to the berry, herb, sage and cedar notes. Elegant, balanced and complex.	88	\$20
RODNEY STRONG Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley 2007 Firm and structured, with aromas of sweet, ripe black cherry, currant and plum. A solid effort that's well-focused.	88	\$22
4 BEARS Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Sean Minor 2007 Supple, graceful, complex and harmonious, this is firm and taut, with spicy plum, currant, cedar and mineral notes.	87	\$17
BOGLE Cabernet Sauvignon California 2007 Tight and intense, with a core of cedary oak, dried currant, herb, mineral and tobacco flavors that are chewy and rustic.	87	\$11
KUNDE ESTATE Cabernet Sauvignon Sonoma Valley 2007 This austere red exhibits flavors of dried flowers, dried berries, mineral and chicory-laced, cedary oak.	87	\$18
SEBASTIANI Cabernet Sauvignon Sonoma County 2006 A subdued, rich and chewy youngster, offering currant, blackberry, cedar, anise and graphite character.	87	\$18
CONCANNON Cabernet Sauvignon Central Coast Selected Vineyards 2007 Cola, raspberry and dried currant aromas firm up on the palate.	85	\$10
LINE 39 Cabernet Sauvignon Lake County 2007 This smooth red offers ripe berry, mineral, graphite and sage notes.	85	\$10
MCMANIS Cabernet Sauvignon California 2008 Appealing grapey wild berry, plum and spice notes are complex.	85	\$11