

PEDRONCELLI

A Sonoma County Tradition Since 1927

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THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

Wine of the week Scouting for any surprises in The Press Democrat's
10-Year Cabernet Sauvignon Retrospective

Wine writer Peg Melnik had a blind tasting this week of 35 10-year-old cabernet sauvignons and Bordeaux red blends and she found a surprise. While heavy hitters like Spottswoode, Shafer and Insignia out-ranked Pedroncelli, the modest player showed it can play with the big boys, snagging a score of 4 stars. The cab was a mere \$15 upon release and today it's priced at \$30

Others worth noting (★★★★1/2 each):

Beringer, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.2 percent.

Goldschmidt, 2001 Alexander Valley Single Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5 percent.

Insignia, 2001 Joseph Phelps Napa Valley Red Wine, 13.9.

Pride Mountain Vineyards, 2001 Napa Valley Reserve Claret, 14.4 percent.

Ramey, 2001 Diamond Mountain District Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.9 percent.

Shafer, 2001 Stags Leap District Hillside Select Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.9 percent.

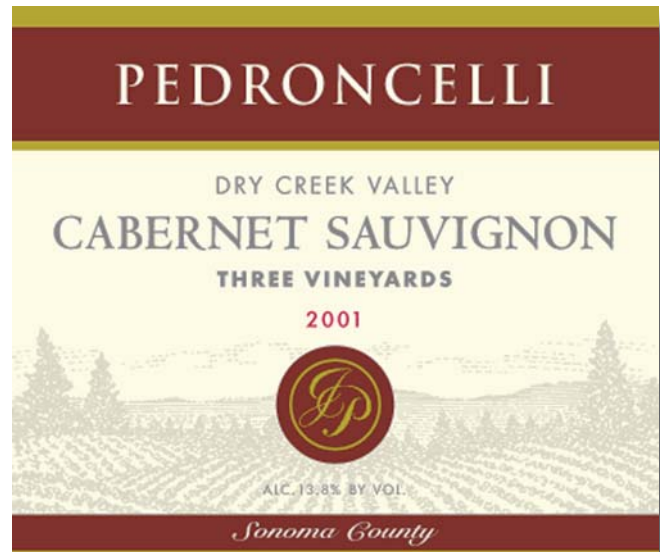
Spottswoode 2001, Spottswode Estate Vineyard Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.1 percent.

Other wines tasted and rated ★★★★★

Burgess Cellars, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.3 percent; Chateau Souverain, 2001 Stuhlmuller Vineyard, Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5 percent; Chateau St. Jean, 2001 Cinq Cepages, Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.4 percent, Duckhorn, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5 percent; Dunn Vineyards, 2001 Howell Mountain, Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.6 percent; Forefathers, 2001 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.4 percent; Jordan, 2001 Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.5 percent; Mount Veeder Winery, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve, 14.1 percent; Ramey, 2001 Jericho Canyon Vineyard, Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.7 percent; Simi, 2001 Alexander Valley, Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.1 percent.

Other wines tasted and rated ★★★★★½ Hess Collection, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5 percent; Hush, 2001 North Field Select Mendocino Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.9 percent; Kenwood, 2001 Jack London Vineyard, Sonoma Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.7 percent; Robert Mondavi Winery, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve, 14.5 percent; Pride Mountain Vineyards, 2001 Reserve Cabernet Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.7 percent; Silver Oak, 2001 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 13.6 percent; Von Strasser, 2001 Diamond Mountain Estate Vineyards Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.2.

TOP PICK



A tasty cab with bright, youthful fruit and layered flavors.
Notes of cherry, cedar and white pepper.

Seamless texture. Juicy.

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