

Independent Wine Evaluation

2014 "Wisdom" Cabernet Sauvignon, Pedroncelli

Immediately upon opening, this Dry Creek Cabernet showed clear, distinct aromas of dark fruit and rich cassis over a medley of piquant spices and an enduring, fresh menthol. The nose changed little across hours, except to draw its aromas into a more tightly-woven, integrated whole. With an hour's time, the palate—less dimensional and earlier presenting medicinal, simple fruit—fully caught up with the nose.

While fruity and powerful, there is an Old World facet to its character. There is charcoal earthiness, lots of unsweetened cocoa and, from the oak, far more spice and wet cedar than vanilla. The dark fruit resembles that of a sturdy Pauillac, and the tannins are gentle yet made to age.

Complexity: A broad variety of well-delineated aromas and flavors

Balance: Good; alcohol was detectable throughout, possibly amplified by intense spices and menthol; great integrity between nose and palate

Expressiveness: Great intensity of aroma and flavor, from nose to finish

Character: Spicy, brooding and energetic; powerful yet well controlled

Typicity: High; unmistakable Cabernet in the style of its appellation

THE SOMMELIER COMPANY



Appellation: Dry Creek Valley
AVA, Sonoma County

Vintage: 2014

Composition: 96% Cabernet
Sauvignon, 4% Petit Verdot

Alcohol: 14.5%

Release Price: \$36

VISUAL, AROMATIC AND FLAVOR

Appearance: Deep ruby with a youthful touch of purple

Fruit, Floral: Blackberry, dried blueberry, cassis, cherry, dried rose

Spice, Herbal, Vegetal: Anise, black pepper, menthol, cinnamon, nutmeg

Oak, Earth, Other: Cedar, oak spice, vanilla, charcoal, bitter cocoa

RESULTS:

Stage 1: Blind Tasting

— Complexity: 7/10

— Balance: 6/10

— Expressiveness: 8/10

Stage 2: Non-Blind

— Character: 6/10

— Typicity: 8/10

SCORE: 91

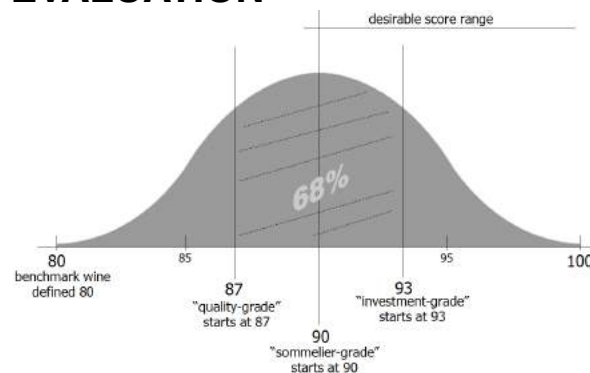


Tasting conducted January 16, 2018

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EVALUATION



METHODOLOGY DISCLOSURE: Full evaluation criteria and process description available upon request. Wines are tasted and evaluated in a controlled environment. Wine samples are provided by producer as part of paid evaluation assignment. Evaluation model assumes that wine quality is normally distributed between scores 80 and 100, where 80 represents a simple, but not flawed, standard wine.