

## **Wine tasting in Napa, Sonoma and Paso Robles**

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The winery tour in Napa, Sonoma and Paso Robles was conducted by Nurit and Asher Tishler and by Rachel Stull during May-June of 2018. Napa was our main focus in this trip. We visited 14 wineries in Napa, 1 winery in Sonoma, and 2 wineries in Paso Robles. We tasted the wineries' current releases (sometimes from barrels) and some older ones.

High quality mature wines from Napa and Sonoma are usually unavailable for purchase in the wineries and should be purchased in professional wine stores or in other professional outlets (local importers, internet stores, auctions, etc.), since most of their (highly demanded) production is pre-sold (sometimes several years) in advance. Wines from the last release and, sometimes, from the last 2-3 releases may be available in some, but not all, wineries.

There are numerous hotels, B&Bs, quality restaurants and wine stores in Napa Valley, Sonoma and Paso Robles. We resided in Calistoga (Napa) and Santa Ynez (for Paso Robles; renting a room in Paso Robles or Templeton may also be convenient). These towns are surrounded by some of the region's most famous wineries and offer many interesting wines and other attractions.

Our trip was planned several months in advance, and was focused on high quality wineries. Thus, no wonder that we ranked many of the wines that we tasted as 'very good' or even 'excellent'. Almost all of the high quality wines that we tasted will age and continue to develop, many of them for 5-25 years.

Finally, there are numerous sources of information on Napa's, Sonoma's and Paso Robles' wines, wineries, history, culture, climate and geography. Wikipedia and the references therein is a good place to start.

## Wineries in Napa

### Pride Mountain

Viognier, 2014. \$45. 14.6% alcohol. Some Body. Balanced. Fairly complex. Fairly elegant. Light wine. Dry. Drink now up to 4 years. Very good wine.

Syrah, 2016. \$62. 14.6% alcohol. 97.5% Syrah, 2.5% Viognier. Full Body. Balanced. Complex. Sharp. Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 10-15 years. Very good wine.

Merlot, 2015. \$62. 14.5% alcohol. 88% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Petit Verdot. Full Body. Balanced. Fairly complex. Soft tannins. Drink now up to 10 years. Good to very good wine.

Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015. \$145. 14.8% alcohol. 97% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot. Full Body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Very good wine.

A small to mid-size winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### Realm

Fidelio, 2017. \$60. 14.1% alcohol. 100% Sauvignon Blanc. Some body. Balanced. Fairly complex. Sharp. Elegant. Drink now up to 3-4 years. Very good wine.

The Bard, 2015. \$130. 14.6% alcohol. 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink in 2-3 years up to 15 years. Very good wine.

Farrela, 2010. \$175. 14.5% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Very good wine.

Moonracer, 2014. \$295. 14.5% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Drink now up to 25 years. Excellent wine.

A high quality winery that last year moved to a new location. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful area in the center of Napa Valley. It produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Odette**

Cade Sauvignon Blanc, 2017. \$34. 14% alcohol. 94% Sauvignon Blanc, 3% Sauvignon Musque, 2% Semillon, 1% Viognier. Light. Balanced. Not complex. Simple. Fairly elegant. Floral aroma. Drink now. Good wine.

Adaptation Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015. \$56. 14.6% alcohol. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins. Young. Somewhat fruity. Drink now up to 6-7 years. Very good wine.

Odette Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Stags Leap, 2015. \$140. 15.2% alcohol. 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 3% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Somewhat fruity. Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 12-15 years. Very good wine.

Adaptation Petite Sirah, 2015. \$44. 14.6% alcohol. 100% Petite Sirah (Durif). Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Somewhat simple wine. Soft tannins. Young. Drink now up to 6-7 years. Very good wine.

Cade Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015. \$220. 15.6% alcohol. 94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Smooth. Sharp. Noticeable Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now or, better, in 2-3 up to 20-25 years. Very good to excellent wine.

A high quality winery. The tasting room, at the Stag's Leap region of Napa Valley, represents three quality wineries: PlumpJack, Cade and Odette, which produce high quality wines. Visiting the tasting room (with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Verite**

La Muse, 2014. \$410. 14.2% alcohol. 88% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Too much oak. Desirable bitterness at the end. Young. Drink now up to 20 years. Very good to excellent wine.

La Joie, 2014. \$410. 13.8% alcohol. 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot. Full body. Fairly Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins.

Too much oak. Desirable bitterness at the end. Young. Drink in 2-5 up to 25 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Le Desir, 2014. \$410. 14.1% alcohol. 53% Cabernet Franc, 21% Merlot, 21% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Malbec. Full body. Fairly Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Very soft tannins. Too much oak. Desirable bitterness at the end. Young. Drink in 2-5 up to 25 years. Very good to excellent wine.

La Muse, 2005. \$410. 14.5% alcohol. 88% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins. Desirable bitterness at the end. Young. Drink now up to 10-15 years. Very good wine.

A high quality winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful area in Sonoma and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Opus One**

Opus One, 2014. \$325. 14.5% alcohol. 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc, 7% petit Verdot, 2% Malbec. Full body. Fairly balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Somewhat flat. Smooth. Soft (hardly noticeable) tannins. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Good to very good wine.

A mid-size winery. Very nice tasting room. Very nice hospitality. Normally produces very good, sometimes excellent, wines. The 2014, like the 2011 Opus One, was disappointing (the 2010 and 2013 Opus One were very good to excellent wines). Over the last several years this winery has become "too commercial". Visiting this winery (with appointment) is recommended.

### **Promontory**

Promontory, 2008. \$750, 14.5% alcohol. About 85% Cabernet Sauvignon. The rest: Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot. Full Body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 10-20 years. Excellent wine.

Promontory, 2009. \$800, 14.5% alcohol. About 85% Cabernet Sauvignon. The rest: Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot. Full Body. Balanced. Complex. Very elegant. Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 10-20 years. Excellent wine.

Promontory, 2016. (From a barrel). About 14.5% alcohol. Mostly Cabernet Sauvignon. Full Body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink in 3-4 up to 20-30 years. Excellent (exceptional) wine.

A small, high quality, interesting winery. Just moved into a new location. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Futo**

Futo Oakville, 2015. \$325, 14.5% alcohol. 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot, 2% Merlot. Full Body. Balanced. Complex. Very elegant. Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now or, better, in 3-4 up to 20 years. Excellent wine.

A small, high quality, interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Melka**

Mekerra (proprietary red), 2014. \$165. 15.5% alcohol. 51% Cabernet Franc, 49% Merlot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Smooth. Somewhat feminine. Some desired bitterness at the end. Great finish. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Excellent wine.

Metisse (Jumping Goat Vineyard), 2015. \$195. 15.1% alcohol. 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Petit Verdot. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Smooth. Some desired bitterness at the end. Great finish. Drink now up to 20-30 years. Excellent wine.

Metisse (Martinez Vineyard), 2015. \$225. 15% alcohol. 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Petit Verdot, 20% Cabernet Franc. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Finesse wine. Noticeable soft tannins. Smooth. Dry. Some desired bitterness at the end. Great lingering finish. Very interesting wine (structure and taste). Drink now up to 20-30 years. Excellent wine.

Mekerra (proprietary white), 2015. \$145. 14.8% alcohol. 100% Sauvignon Blanc. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Smooth. Dry. Nice finish. Drink now up to 7-10 years. Very good wine.

A small, high quality, interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful area. It produces high quality (elegant) wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Dunn**

Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon, 2014. \$125. 13.9% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins. Nice acidity. Desirable bitterness at the end. Drink in 3-20 years. Very good wine.

Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon, 2012. \$135. 13.9% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Desirable bitterness at the end. Drink in 3-20 years. Very good wine.

Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 2014. \$85. 13.9% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins. Drink in 2-15 years. Very good wine.

Retro – Howell Mountain Petite Sirah, 2012. \$45. 13.4% alcohol. 100% Petite Sirah (not Syrah). Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Somewhat too acidic. Noticeable soft tannins. Drink in 2-10 years. Very good wine.

A small to medium winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Pott**

Cabernet Franc, Mount Veeder, 2016. (From a barrel). \$175. 14.5% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Franc. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Fresh. Soft tannins. (Will be blended with Cabernet Sauvignon). Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 25 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Cabernet Sauvignon, Mount Veeder, 2016. (From a barrel). \$175. 14.6% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Fresh. Soft tannins. (Will be blended with other types of wine). Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 25 years. Excellent wine.

Le Nouveau Western, 2015. \$150. 14.8% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Fresh. Soft tannins. Drink now up to 20 years. Very good wine.

Kaliholmanok, 2015. \$150. 14.9% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Dry. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20 years. Very good wine.

Acteon, 2015. \$150. 14.8% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Dry. Fairly elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20 years. Very good wine.

Original Gangster, 2014. \$90. 14.8% alcohol. 100% Grenache. Full body (not powerful). Balanced. Fairly complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 15 years. Very good wine.

Turf War, 2014. \$250. 14.8% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Very elegant. Dry. Soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20-25 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Incubo, 2013. \$450. 14.9% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Very elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20-25 years. Excellent wine.

A small, high quality, interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful and unusual building in a beautiful hilly area and produces very high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Kapcsandy**

Estate Cuvee, 2014. \$130. 13.8% alcohol. 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Dry. Drink now or, better, in 3-4 up to 25-30 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Estate Cuvee – Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015. \$130. 14.1% alcohol. 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Some floral aroma. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Drink now up to 25 years. Very good wine.

Rapszodia, 2015. \$300. 14.4% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Noticeable soft tannins. Drink now up to 25-30 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Roberta's Reserve, 2012. \$285. 14.5% alcohol. 100% Merlot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Still young. Drink now up to 25 years. Excellent wine.

Cabernet Sauvignon–Grand Vin, 2014. \$385. 13.9% alcohol. 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Dry. Sharp. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Noticeable soft tannins. Drink in 2-3 up to 25-30 years. Excellent wine.

Cabernet Sauvignon–Grand Vin, 2013. \$450. 14.1% alcohol. 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Some floral aroma. Round. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Drink in 2-3 up to 25-30 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Furmint, 2017. (White wine). \$40. 13.2% alcohol. 100% Hungarian Furmint. Nice body. Balanced. Fairly complex. Fairly elegant. Dry. Sharp. Drink now up to 4-5 years. Very good wine.

A small winery that produces high quality wines. Great hospitality. The winery resides in the flat part of the Napa Valley. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

### **Ovid**

W3.6 (an experiment), 2016. \$95. 14.3% alcohol. 21% Grenache Blanc, 8% Roussanne, 36% Sauvignon Blanc, 9% Viognier, 19% Albarino, 7% Vermentino. Close to full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Fresh. Young. Smooth. Nice floral aroma. Drink now up to 5-6 years. Very good wine.

Hexameter, 2014. \$325. 14.8% alcohol. 51% Cabernet Franc, 37% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Noticeable soft tannins. Drink now or, better, in 3-4 up to 25-30 years. Excellent wine.

Ovid, 2014. \$325. 14.8% alcohol. 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Cabernet Franc, 5% Merlot. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Long finish. Noticeable soft tannins. Drink now or, better, in 3-4 up to 25-30 years. Excellent wine.

A small winery that produces high quality wines. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.



## **Colgin**

Cariad, 2014. \$400. 14.9% alcohol. About 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot, 8% Cabernet Franc. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now or, better, in 2-4 up to 25-30 years. Excellent wine.

IX Estate, 2014. \$400. 14.9% alcohol. About 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot, 11% Cabernet Franc. Full body. Powerful. Balanced. Complex. Very elegant. Sharp. Very soft but noticeable tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now or, better, in 2-4 up to 25-30 years. Excellent (exceptional) wine (better than the Cariad 2014).

A high quality, interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

## **Brand**

Brio, 2015. \$150. 15% alcohol. 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Fresh. Some floral aroma. Soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Very good wine.

Propriety Red, 2015. \$250. 15.2% alcohol. 55% Cabernet Franc, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Sharp. Very soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 25-30 years. Very good to excellent wine.

Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015. \$250. 15.3% alcohol. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Dry. Fresh. Some (minute) floral aroma. Noticeable soft tannins. Some desired bitterness at the end. Drink now or, better, in 3-5 up to 25-30 years. Excellent wine.

A high quality, interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful mountain area and produces high quality wines. Visiting this winery (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

## Bevan Cellars

Drystack Sauvignon Blanc, 2017. \$32. 13.6% alcohol. 100% Sauvignon Blanc. Close to full body. Balanced. Fairly complex. Fairly elegant. Some citrus (grapefruit) aroma. Young. Sharp. Drink now up to 3-4 years. Very good wine.

Rita's Crown Pinot Noir, 2016. \$75. 14.9% alcohol. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Silky. Smooth. Some floral aroma. Very soft (barely noticeable) tannins. Young. Drink now up to 10 years. Very good wine.

Sugarloaf Propriety Red, 2015. \$195. 15.3% alcohol. About 50% Cabernet Franc and about 50% Merlot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Smooth. Some floral aroma. Noticeable soft tannins. Somewhat feminine wine. Desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20 years. Very good wine.

Wildefoote, 2015. \$195. 14.9% alcohol. About 93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petit Verdot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Noticeable soft tannins. Somewhat fruity. Desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20 years. Very good wine.

EE, Tench Vineyard, 2015. \$250. 15.5% alcohol. About 50% Cabernet Franc and about 50% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Desired bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 20 years. Excellent wine.

A high quality winery that produces high quality wines. Great hospitality. Visiting this winery or its tasting room (only with appointment) is highly recommended.

## Wineries in Paso Robles

### Tablas Creek

Esprit de Tablas Blanc, 2015. \$45. 13% alcohol. 55% Roussanne, 28% Grenache Blanc, 17% Picpoul. Close to full body. Complex. Balanced. Fairly elegant. Fresh. Young. Nice long finish. Drink now up to 10 years. Very good wine.

Esprit De Beaucastel Blanc, 2009. \$60. 13.5% alcohol. 62% Roussanne, 26% Grenache Blanc, 12% Picpoul. Close to full body. Complex. Balanced. Fairly elegant. Some minerality. Will not improve in the future. Drink now up to 3-4 years. Very good wine.

Esprit De Tablas, 2014. \$55. 14.5% alcohol. 40% Mourvedre, 20% Syrah, 35% Grenache, 5% Counoise. Full body. Complex. Balanced. Fairly elegant. High, and nice, acidity. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Drink now up to 10-20 years. Very good wine.

Esprit De Tablas, 2012. \$55. 14.5% alcohol. 40% Mourvedre, 30% Syrah, 21% Grenache, 9% Counoise. Full body. Complex. Balanced. Fairly elegant. Nice acidity. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Drink now up to 10-15 years. Very good wine.

Esprit De Beaucastel, 2007. \$85. 14.5% alcohol. 44% Mourvedre, 21% Syrah, 29% Grenache, 6% Counoise. Full body. Complex. Balanced. Fairly elegant. Nice acidity. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Drink now. Very good wine.

Panoplie, 2015. \$95. 14.5% alcohol. 71% Mourvedre, 5% Syrah, 24% Grenache. Full body. Complex. Balanced. Elegant. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Soft tannins. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Very good to excellent wine.

A mid-size interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful area and produces high quality wines. We very much enjoyed the GSM (or, more precisely, the MGS) wines. Visiting the winery is highly recommended.

### Daou

Estate Sauvignon Blanc, 2017. \$50. Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon. Light. Balanced. Fairly Complex. Fairly elegant. Smooth. Young. Fresh. Drink now up to 4-5 years. Very good wine.

Chemin de Fluers, 2017. \$35. Grenache Blanc, Roussanne, Viognier. Less than full body. Light. Balanced. Fairly Complex. Fairly elegant. Smooth. Young. Drink now up to 4-5 years. Very good wine.

Reserve Chardonnay, 2016. \$42. Full body. Not sufficiently balanced. Complex. Very dry. Drink now up to 5-6 years. Good wine.

Cuvee de Famille, 2015. \$30. 90% Petite Sirah, 10% Tannat. Close to full body. Balanced. Complex. Very soft tannins. Some floral aroma. Fairly elegant. Drink now up to 10 years. Good to very good wine.

Reserve Aux, 2014. \$65. 75% Syrah, 19% Grenache, 6% Morvedre. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Soft tannins. Some desirable bitterness at the end. Drink now up to 10 years. Very good wine.

Reserve Eye of the Falcon Cabernet Sauvignon, 2016. \$50. 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Petit Verdot. Full body. Balanced. Complex. Elegant. Soft tannins. Silky. Desirable bitterness at the end. Lingering finish. Drink now up to 10-15 years. Very good wine.

Soul of a Lion, 2015. \$150. 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Cabernet Franc, 11% Petit Verdot. Full body. Fairly powerful. Balanced. Complex. Fairly elegant. Noticeable soft tannins. Desirable bitterness at the end. Lingering finish. Drink now up to 15-20 years. Very good to excellent wine.

A mid-size interesting winery. Great hospitality. The winery resides in a beautiful hilly area and produces high quality wines. Visiting the winery (with appointment) is highly recommended.