

## James Laube's Recommended California Cabernets

More than 600 wines were reviewed for this report; an alphabetical list of scores and prices for all of them begins on page 130. WineSpectator.com members can access complete reviews for all wines tasted using the online Wine Ratings search.

### TOP WINES (continued)

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>SCHRADER CELLARS</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard 2012 Sleek, refined and elegant, showing rich layers of spicy oak, blackberry and wild berry, with cedar and herb nuances.	95	\$175
<b>SCHRADER CELLARS</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley LPV Beckstoffer Las Piedras Vineyard 2012 Starts out bold and assertive, with rich dark berry, cedar and nutmeg flavors. Well-built, tight and persistent.	95	\$175
<b>SCHRADER CELLARS</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley T6 Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard 2012 Builds from a tight core of mocha-laced currant and blackberry to a broader mix that folds in creamy, toasty, mocha-laced oak.	95	\$175
<b>TOR</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Beckstoffer To Kalon 2012 Direct and powerful, with a dense core of blackberry, black cherry, cassis, mocha, loamy earth, cedar and tobacco leaf flavors.	95	\$150
<b>TURNBULL</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Leopoldina Vineyard 2012 A gorgeous effort, with ripe, rich blackberry, blueberry, boysenberry, graphite and cedary oak flavors, followed by a focused finish.	95	\$110
<b>ARAUJO</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Eisele Vineyard 2012 This delivers a gorgeous mix of rich, vibrant blackberry, wild berry, currant and cassis flavors that are taut and firm.	94	\$350
<b>CAYMUS</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Special Selection 2012 Appropriately tannic and structured, with a core of juicy dark berry, blackberry, black licorice and creamy, toasty vanilla oak.	94	\$160
<b>CONTINUUM</b> Napa Valley 2012 A Pauillac-like expression of fresh-cut flowers, gravelly tannins and rich currant and dark berry flavors. Cabernet blend.	94	\$200
<b>CORRA</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 Showing youthful vitality, this gushes with opulent dark berry and dark chocolate flavors, with dried herb and cedary oak hints.	94	\$135
<b>DOMINUS ESTATE</b> Napa Valley 2012 Deftly balanced, with an enticing mix of loamy earth, dried berry, cedar and cigar box, all rich and extracted. Cabernet blend.	94	\$199
<b>GEMSTONE</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Yountville 2012 Effusively fruity, with juicy currant, blackberry and wild berry notes, evolving from supple and silky to firmer on the finish.	94	\$150
<b>HEWITT</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford 2012 Combines power and finesse, with a rich core of dark berry, mocha, chocolate, dusty oak and loamy earth. Gains depth at the end.	94	\$150
<b>LEWIS</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 Beautifully crafted, rich and layered, showing tiers of currant, blackberry, mocha, espresso and vanilla, with an elegant mouthfeel.	94	\$90
<b>REVANA</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 A classy effort, rich, refined, pure and elegant, offering blackberry, wild berry, floral and spice aromas, with spicy, cedary oak.	94	\$150
<b>RODNEY STRONG</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley Rockaway Single Vineyard 2012 Exhibits the power of ripe currant, blackberry and cherry flavors, along with cigar box, dried herb, green olive and tea notes.	94	\$75

### TOP VALUES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>FREI BROTHERS</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley Reserve 2012 Combines firm, dark fruit and chewy tannins with a measure of finesse and refinement, ending with good length and depth.	92	\$27
<b>CHATEAU ST. JEAN</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley 2012 Exhibits ripe and juicy yet firm flavors of currant and blackberry.	91	\$30
<b>FERRARI-CARANO</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley 2012 Alexander Valley 2012 Elegant, with a rich core of dense dark berry, earth, cedar and tobacco.	91	\$34
<b>CAMERON HUGHES</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Coombsville Lot 545 2012 The juicy core of blackberry and wild berry fruit is supple and graceful.	91	\$29
<b>BERINGER</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Knights Valley 2012 Approachable yet complex, with ripe berry, floral and spice notes.	90	\$32
<b>CAMERON HUGHES</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Lot 555 2012 Mocha, vanilla and licorice aromas lead to a core of black fruit flavors.	90	\$29
<b>DAOU</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Paso Robles 2013 Shows off jazzy oak, with dried berry, currant, sage and cedar notes.	90	\$35
<b>KENDALL-JACKSON</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley Jackson Estate 2012 Offers a cedary edge, with dried berry, oak, espresso and gravel notes.	90	\$36
<b>LOUIS M. MARTINI</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 Moderately rich, with black cherry, plum, currant and light cedary oak.	90	\$38
<b>TAKEN</b> Napa Valley 2013 Clean and pure throughout, showing balance. Cabernet blend.	90	\$39
<b>FRANCIS COPPOLA DIAMOND COLLECTION</b> Cabernet Sauvignon California Black Label Claret (1910 Type) 2013 Well-proportioned, with a core of juicy red and dark berry flavors.	89	\$21
<b>ROUND POND ESTATE</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Kith & Kin 2013 A pleasing offering of dried currant, licorice, graphite and cedary oak.	89	\$30
<b>AVALON</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 Trim and tight, with chewy, cedar-laced currant and red berry flavors.	88	\$20
<b>BEAULIEU VINEYARD</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford 2012 This offers a firmly tannic profile of dusty berry from the get-go.	88	\$32
<b>EMBLEM</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 Very intense, this exhibits firm, vibrant blackberry and wild berry fruit.	88	\$35
<b>THE HESS COLLECTION</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Allomi 2012 Tempting, with a vibrant core of rich blackberry, currant and licorice.	88	\$30
<b>LOUIS M. MARTINI</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Sonoma County 2013 Offers a trim profile of dusty earth, dried berry and cedary oak flavors.	88	\$20
<b>ROBERT MONDAVI</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2012 Supple, with notes of currant, anise, loamy earth and new leather.	88	\$28
<b>OBSIDIAN RIDGE</b> Cabernet Sauvignon Red Hills Lake County Obsidian Ridge Vineyard 2012 Rich, with mineral, dark berry, espresso, cedar and graphite flavors.	88	\$30