

2015 Corison Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon



Heat in March got the ball rolling and set the stage for an early season. Then May turned cold at flowering time, affecting set. The resulting scraggly clusters of tiny berries were intensely delicious. Between the ongoing drought and cold temperatures during bloom, the 2015 crop was also much smaller than average. Heat in August and September brought the grapes in for one of the earliest harvests on record. The juicy flavors lean more toward the purple and black end of the Cabernet spectrum in 2015, with cassis, black plums and marionberries dominating. With time in the glass, Bing cherries and blueberries emerge for a symphony of flavor. A pretty violet and dried rose perfume is beginning to develop, and savory spice notes and lifting minerality round out this charmer.

– *Cathy Corison*

Jancis Robinson
JancisRobinson.com

17 Still looks pretty youthful and purple. Correct, lightly minty, relaxed and unforced. Pure fruit flavour here! Very clean and superior. *Jancis Robinson, 22 Mar 2019*



92 Cathy Corison's 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley) is dark, succulent and inviting. In 2015, the Napa Valley Cabernet is decidedly sumptuous by Corison standards, while the flavor profile leans towards the inkier end of the spectrum. Dark red and purplish stone fruit, licorice and floral notes are nicely pushed forward. Readers won't have to wait too long on the 2015, as it is built to deliver pleasure from the get go. *Antonio Galloni, January 2018*



94 A bright, high-pitched style, featuring damson plum, red currant and cherry fruit flavors, laced with rose petal and jasmine notes, giving this a distinctive profile, while bramble-edged grip and bright acidity let all the elements play out through the energetic finish. Poised to age well. Best from 2021 through 2035. – *JM, April 30, 2019*



97 Cellar Selection – Corison 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena)

This understated, elegant study in the variety opens in beguiling aromas of floral rose before opening into a finely made, structured and gracefully constructed wine that's fully in balance. Leather, black cherry and dark chocolate highlight a midpalate of finely polished, tamed tannin and integrated oak. This is delightfully enjoyable now, but can stand up to aging; enjoy best 2020-2030. *11/1/18*

JamesSuckling.com

93 Aromas of ripe fruit with blackcurrants, dark chocolate, hazelnuts and spices that follow through to a medium to full body with very fine tannins. A linear and fresh finish. Shows tightness and focus. Beautiful to drink now. But will age beautiful. *May 23, 2018*



2015 Corison, St. Helena, Napa Valley – Medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, ripe, spicy, dark cherry, cassis, and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of mocha and baking spices; full body; rich, textured, red and black fruit flavors with good depth and concentration; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. ... Well balanced, and should continue to develop with another three to five more years of bottle aging.

Very highly recommended. *Volume 44, June 2018*



CORISON St. Helena 2015 - Showing clear family kinship with Corison's

Sunbasket bottling and a Cabernet that trades muscle and sinew for tailored grace, this slightly fleshy, medium-full effort comes without an ounce of extraneous fat, and it keys on mildly herbal, red currant fruit with a quiet complement of creamy oak... it is sure to be to the liking of advocates of elegance and comparatively quiet varietal strength. *August 2018*

John Winthrop Haeger

Beautiful magenta. Precocious aromatically: a berry garden first, featuring raspberry and Rainier cherries; then herbs, tree bark and gum camphor. Sleek on the palate with just a hint of grip before finishing long, fresh and lovely. This vintage is still young and welterweight -- not much more mature than a teenager -- its best years are still ahead.

12/29/21

terroir
R E V I E W

The scent here suggests blueberry, cassis, violets, Mandarin orange peel, and Chinese five spice powder. The palate is expansive, chewy, and concentrated, adding flavors of fig and black plums. The tannins are supple but the wine has a youthful, nut-like astringency. It is a big-hearted wine, friendly and delicious with gorgeous spiciness. Lovely now, but age it for five to ten years to experience more filigree.

Meg Maker, June 21, 2020

purely domestic wine report

95 The nose is a lean and refreshing blackberry and sandalwood offering beautiful elegance. The palate entry is a clean nimble and elegant violet with beautifully balanced length. Drink 2019-2035

Doug Wilder, Issue 7.4



★★★★+ The 2015 is a rich, supple, beautifully balanced wine with full body, good depth and structure, complex aromas/flavors (black currant, cassis, herbs, pepper, spicy oak), and a very long, mildly tannic finish. The best ever version of this wine. Can be aged.

Issues #178-80, September 2018



93 Corison 2015 St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon - Chewy and warm when first opened, this wine takes time to settle into cooler tones of roses, herbs and tobacco. Its dark-berry flavors are gentle and savory, its tannins fine. Cathy Corison blends this wine from fruit grown in three benchland sites west of Highway 29, at the border between Rutherford and St. Helena. (8/18)



94 The 2015 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is yet another fantastic wine from Cathy Corison. It opens to striking aromatics of blackberries and currants woven together with spices, graphite and fresh spring florals. On the palate it displays remarkable overall balance and structure with beautifully polished tannins. Pure and precise, with wonderful complexities, this thoroughly impresses from start to finish. While this is already drinking beautifully, it will without question have a sensational future ahead.

April, 2018



92 The nose is fruity, elegant and offers a very slight concentration. It reveals notes of cassis, blackberry and fine hints of small black berries associated with slight touches of wild raspberry, flowers as well as discreet hints of cardamom. The palate is fruity, juicy, fresh, well-balanced and offers a good definition, juiciness, a good structure... a slight freshness as well as a fine gourmandise. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy cassis, crunchy / juicy black berries and small notes of wild raspberry combined with discreet hints of redcurrants as well as discreet hints of liquorice, colas and a very discreet hint of cocoa. Tannins are fine and a bit firm. Good length. Very slight chews on the persistence.

Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche, 5/2018



Top 100 of 2018

95 The 2015 'Napa Valley' Cabernet Sauvignon by Corison is a spectacular effort in this warm vintage. Sourced from the Saint Helena AVA, the nose shows wonderful range from coffee grounds to creme de cassis to black olive and crushed mint. Lighter smoky tones round out the compelling aromatics. Once in the mouth, the wine has a wonderful sense of place. The silky mouthfeel provides spectacular balance here. Cassis, anise, black tea, and lighter blueberry compote tones with cigar ash flavors complete this spectacular wine. While it is showing marvelously right now, this will continue to evolve gracefully for decades. Drink 2020-2040

December 18, 2018

WEINWISSER

Rather red than black fruit with a dark plum, but also floral notes and a pinch of cinnamon on the nose, works in the palate with fresh acidity and lighter body.

Olaf Schilling, 11/2019 (translated from German)