

2001 Corison Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon



The 2001 Corison Cabernet is a beauty. What has become clear to me over the years is that the most important factor in a great vintage is the weather during the ripening season; the interval between veraison (softening and the onset of color development) and picking. Warm days and cool nights result in the darkest color, the most complex flavors and the best balance. The spare rainfall during the winter months favored a smaller than average crop, contributing uncommon intensity to the wine. It is the natural acidity in a wine that gives it the liveliness to be refreshing and the longevity to reward patient cellaring. Fleshing out this sturdy framework are rich, complex flavors and aromas. The red fruit notes include plum, blackberry and black cherry with hints of chocolate and a dash of spice for interest. A beautiful floral perfume of violets and an unmistakable mineral quality, often called "Rutherford dust", complete the package. All of the components converge in just the right place; everything is in balance. This wine will enjoy a long, distinguished life.

- Cathy Corison

Cathy's Notes from 25 Vintage Retrospective Tasting, October 2014:

Bright, pretty, complex and layered with black cherries and blueberries, floral lift. Flavors follow with a mineral verve, cherries, blueberries and a hint of peppermint. Delicious. Wonderful brightness. LOVE this wine.

Decanter 94 This takes a while to open up, but then reveals lifted blueberry and wild forest fruit. This has barely started on its journey: the tannins are still tight, and for now it shows rich, elegant and unforced fruit with glimpses of liquorice.
Anne Krebiehl, December 2016

VINOGRAPHY: a wine blog

Wine and food adventures in San Francisco and around the world

Dark ruby in the glass with a hint of garnet in the core, this wine smells of sweet cherry, cedar, and forest floor. In the mouth the wine has an incredible bright freshness still, with crystalline pure flavors of cherry, redcurrant, raspberry and plum skin. Gorgeous minerality and depth, as crushed stones and dried flowers and forest floor swirly in a powdery cloud of chalk-dust-fine tannins. Stunning length and acidity. A phenomenal wine. Poised and elegant, yet exuberantly joyous. This is what Napa Cabernet should be. 13.6% alcohol. Score: a perfect 10.
Alder Yarrow, vinography.com, 6.27.2015

WALL STREET JOURNAL

Time in a Bottle: Can Napa Valley Cabernet Age?

FIVE NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNONS RIPE FOR DRINKING

If you're lucky enough to be in Napa Valley, pick up one of these wines... that are in the primes of their lives. 2001 Corison Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon - Supple, elegant, with fine-grained tannins... glorious: polished and elegant.

On Wine by Lettie Teague, The Wall Street Journal, onlinensj.com, Nov. 21, 2014

VIEW FROM THE CELLAR

94+ 2001 is an excellent vintage for Napa cabernets and the '01 Corison is a superb example of this outstanding year. The deep and sappy nose jumps from the glass in a still youthful mélange of red and black cherries, a touch of plum, Rutherford dust, tobacco smoke, cocoa powder, a gentle whisper of mint and a deft touch of vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and silky on the attack, with beautiful mid-palate depth, bright acids, modest tannins and excellent length and grip on the sappy and still quite primary finish. Texturally, this lovely 2001 cabernet is not too far from peak drinking, but in terms of aromatic and flavor complexity, it is still in the developmental stage and another three to five years of bottle age are really going to pay dividends in terms of blossoming.

John Gilman, May-June 2017, #69



Bright red with ruby tones. Cool, restrained aromas of blueberry, boysenberry, black cherry, menthol, licorice and fresh herbs, lifted by pepper and floral nuances. Suave and fine-grained on entry, then expands slightly in the middle palate without losing its vibrancy. As on the nose, musky berry flavors are more black and purple than red, with very good retention of acidity giving thrust and definition to the middle palate. Little new oak to get in the way of the fruit. This is evolving at a snail's pace and is still quite savory and fresh. Finishes with firm-edged yet very suave tannins and subtle berry persistence. Not sweet but quite fruit-driven, this youthful, sappy wine may yet develop more complexity as it reaches full maturity and softens further.

Stephen Tanzer, May 2020

WINEANORAK.COM
Jamie Goode's online wine magazine

Beautifully aromatic with a nice savoury, spicy dimension. The palate has lovely pure, fresh plum and blackcurrant fruit, with savoury, spicy tannic structure. Very well proportioned and balanced with nice minerality. Warm climate in style but still quite fresh. Beginning to start showing its best. **93/100**

Jamie Goode, wineanorak.com, November 2009

Wine & Spirits
MAGAZINE

90 Pts, December 2005

RESTAURANT WINE
The Full Service Guide to On-Sale Beverage Profits



CORISON, 2001 NAPA VALLEY ★★★★★

Very fine quality: supple, rich and well balanced; a Cabernet with intense fruitiness (blackberry, plum), layers of complexity, and a persistent finish.

Issue #103, October 2004

Stephen Tanzer's
International Wine Cellar

(90+ Pts.) Outstanding. Medium red ruby....with plenty of nuance to it's aromas of current, cherry skin, mint menthol, pepper and herbs; a rose note emerges as the wine opened in the glass. Suave classy and very laid-back offering a restrained sweetness... This elegant, classically dry Cabernet remained impressively fresh and useful for 48 hours in the uncorked bottle.

Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, Issue 114 May/June 2004

Alister & Paine
THE DIGITAL MAGAZINE FOR 21st CENTURY EXECUTIVES

We sat down to taste the 2001 Corison Cabernet...what a beauty. It is the natural acidity in a wine that gives it the liveliness to be refreshing and the longevity to reward patient cellaring. Fleshing out this sturdy framework are rich, complex flavors and aromas. The redfruit notes include plum, blackberry and black cherry with hints of chocolate and a dash of spice for interest. A beautiful floral perfume of violets and an unmistakable mineral quality, often called "Rutherford dust", complete the package. All of the components converge in just the right place; everything is in balance. This wine will enjoy a long, distinguished life.

alisterpaine.com, February 12, 2014