

2021 Corison Kronos Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon



A small crop of delicious tiny berries in 2021 was the result of major drought, cool weather at flowering in May, and a heat spike in June. Moderate temperatures throughout the ripening season brought the fruit to balanced perfection with snappy natural acidity. These Kronos vines celebrated their 50th birthday in 2021!

I love the 2021 Kronos for its liveliness - showcasing a wonderful balance between brightness and full-bodied intensity. Signature rose petals and boysenberry fruit join cassis, black cherry and plum for remarkable complexity. Mineral notes of dust and shale, and hints of cocoa, anise and *Herbes de Provence* all add interest. The finish goes on and on.

~ Cathy Corison

Decanter Top 50 US Wines - #32

98 The 2021 rendition of Cathy Corison's iconic Kronos Vineyard Cabernet is one of the vintage's most seamless, refreshing, and focused Cabernets. Super polished tannins are seamlessly integrated, while the fruit profile is remarkably pure, light, and vibrant with tangy-bright mixed berry fruit that is nuanced by white pepper and crushed wild herbs. It is stunning now and will reward patient collectors over the next few decades. The vineyard was planted in 1971 on St. George rootstock. The winery has been a Napa staple since opening its doors in 1987.

Jonathan Cristaldi, Decanter Magazine, 16 December, 2024



97 The 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon Kronos Vineyard is fabulous. In fact, the 2021 is one of the most elegant wines I have tasted from this site, a vineyard where the tannins can be forbidding at this stage. The long, cool growing season provided ideal conditions for the ripening of seeds and stems. Blackberry, gravel, incense, licorice, dried herbs and espresso build as this brooding Cabernet gradually reveals its charms.

Antonio Galloni, Vinous, December 2023



Top 100 USA Wines - #85

97 Attractive nose with aromas of black and blue fruit and hints of cloves, licorice, graphite and iodine on the nose. Crushed stone notes. Medium- to full-bodied and structured, but very fine with silky, almost delicate texture to its tannins. Very harmonious and lively. Long and fresh with al-dente fruit. Really beautiful and pristine.

James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, March 2024



18 Voluptuous nose...in a wine with real structure and a certain balsam character.

Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com, 1 April, 2024



96 Sleek and pure in feel, this shows mulberry, cassis and black cherry puree notes that ripple with finely beaded acidity. Stylish details of iris and violet wrap around the fruit, with a pretty twang of iron supporting the lengthy finish.

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, Oct. 31, 2025

vinography

Very dark garnet in the glass, this wine smells of blackcurrant, flowers, and the nutty notes of oak. In the mouth, phenomenal acidity makes flavors of black cherry, blackcurrant, and raspberries juicy and bright on the palate. Gorgeous, fine-grained tannins coat the mouth and remain supple through the very long floral and oak-scented finish... Incredibly balanced and effortless. Easy to drink now but wait a few years for the best experience. This wine is built for the long haul.

Score: between **9.5** and **10**.

Alder Yarrow, Vinography.com, December 3, 2024

JEB DUNNUCK **95** All varietal, the 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon Kronos Vineyard is absolutely brilliant and well worth seeking out. Pure blue fruits, cassis, graphite, lead pencil, and tobacco notes are just some of its nuances, and it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a pure, layered, flawlessly balanced mouthfeel, and a great finish. Brought up in 50% new French oak, it's one classy Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon that reminds me of a great Saint-Julien.

Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, 1/8/25



97 Deep garnet-purple colored, it features bold scents of fresh blackberries and blackcurrants, opening out to an array of purple flowers, fragrant herbs, and forest floor scents. The medium-bodied palate is tightly wound and bursting with energy, framed by fine-grained tannins and great tension, finishing long and earthy. *Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent, January 16, 2025*



96 As it is in most vintages, the 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon Kronos Vineyard is gently floral and herbal (sage-like?) on the nose, with those delicate elements joining scents of pencil shavings and cassis. It's cooler-seeming than the Sunbasket Vineyard bottling, with more perfume and less obvious fruit, yet it's still medium to full-bodied, concentrated, tannic, mouthwatering and long. If the Sunbasket is more showy, this is more restrained and perhaps more elegant. *Joe Czerwinski, Wine Advocate, Feb. 27, 2025*



Top Wine - Elegant intensity, fantastic persistence of juicy fruit. Aromas of red and black fruit, spice, vanilla, wood. Mouth-filling black cherry, dusty earth, and savory dried herb. Fine grain texture. *2025 Slow Wine Guide*

VIEW FROM THE CELLAR

96 Of all the bottlings of cabernet sauvignon now produced in Napa Valley, Cathy Corison's Kronos Vineyard cuvée is my absolute favorite. Her 2021 version tips the scales at 13.8 percent alcohol and delivers a truly stunning aromatic constellation of cassis, blackberries, cigar wrapper, a beautifully complex base of Saint Helena soil tones (that classic Rutherford Dust), violets, currant leaf and an impressively understated framing of new oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and elegant in profile, with a superb core of fruit, fine soil inflection and grip, ripe, buried tannins and impeccable balance on the long, precise and still quite tightly-knit, youthful finish. *John Gilman, View from the Cellar, Issue #114, Nov-Dec 2024*



98 The 2021 Kronos Vineyard is stunning to say the least and another simply remarkable release from Cathy Corison. As it unwinds in the glass it begins to captivate with its beautifully perfumed bouquet of ripe blackberries and dark currants, interwoven with nuances of crushed violets, graphite, tobacco leaf, and a subtle hint of gravel. On the palate, it unfolds with a luxurious full body and a masterful structure with notable tension and framed by polished tannins that create an absolutely gorgeous texture. It displays an impeccable combination of power and finesse as a vibrant thread of acidity lends freshness, elevating the wine's complexity and carrying it gracefully into a long focused finish. While already breathtaking in its youth, this wine promises extraordinary evolution and refinement over the coming decades.

Joe D'Angelo, International Wine Report, November 2024



From 54-year-old vines at Corison's winery, which she purchased in the mid-nineties. A notably distinct expression of Valley floor fruit, one where broodiness coexists alongside lightness. Ripe boysenberry, dark cherry, and currant; already quite harmonious. A serious mineral crunch at the end. Very impressive. *Jon Fine, The New Wine Review, March 4, 2025*