

2019 Corison *Sunbasket Vineyard* Cabernet Sauvignon



The 2019 season was so cool that we picked fully two weeks later than usual, the perfect setup for a great vintage. Cool days and cold nights allowed luxurious hang-time, resulting in complex, intense flavors, with inky color and balancing natural acidity. A vintage for the ages.

Brilliant dark blue red. Wildly complex, juicy fruit aromas and flavors include black cherry, raspberry, lingonberry, black currant, cranberry and plum. Baking spices give a sweet impression in the aromas, which play nicely with a violet perfume that is already developing. Signature bright acidity gives the wine a lively vibration, and velvety tannins round everything out. Top notes of cocoa, star anise and peppermint add interest.

~ Cathy Corison



95 The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Sunbasket Vineyard is such a gorgeous wine. It shows all of the exuberance of St. Helena in its open-knit, sensual personality. Silky tannins wrap around a core of crushed raspberry, rose petal, cinnamon and mocha... it is, quite frankly, impossible to resist even in its youth. The Sunbasket has always been a forward wine. In 2019, it has an extra kick of energy and vitality.

Antonio Galloni, Vinous, October 2021



97 Sweeping savory aromas and flavors of deep forest, bay, peppercorns, violets, and blackberry. Above all: sleek, structured, layered, and precise... This is very delicious now, but if it got lost in your cellar for 10 or more years, I bet you'd also be happy.

Karen MacNeil, January 19, 2024



95 This is so fragrant with aromas of mulberries, plums, cherries, lavender, sage, dried herbs, dark chocolate, bark and spice box. It's medium- to full-bodied with fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity. Crunchy and vibrant with a long, succulent finish. So attractive now but even better from 2023.

jamesuckling.com, November 4, 2021



95 A sleek, refined Cabernet, with a beautifully focused set of violet, black cherry puree and warmed cassis notes flecked with light anise and apple wood through the finish. Shows a subtle mineral underpinning throughout, too. Lovely.

James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, August 2022



95+ The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Sunbasket Vineyard comes across as the richest and ripest of Corison's 2019s, offering bold cassis fruit and hints of dark chocolate underscored by enlivening notes of mint. It's medium to full-bodied and a bit rounder on the palate but still harmonious and long on the finish, framed by silky tannins.

Joe Czerwinski, Wine Advocate, 15th Sep, 2022



95 – Cellar Selection - Gamy, meaty and even flirting with *garrigue*, this is an earthy, sublime and highly structured wine, additionally tangy and dusty in tobacco and dried herb. Notes of black olive, red currant and cassis combine around silky tannins and lovely oak.

Virginie Boone, Wine Enthusiast, 10/1/2022



94 Beautifully balanced, rich and youthfully undeveloped yet tasty and stylish, here is another Corison creation that is directed to those with patience and a preference for precision and grace as opposed to opulence and intensity. But make no mistake, there is depth aplenty in the curranty, slightly root beer richness of the flavors as well as underlying muscle for long aging.

Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine, August 2022

94 Saturated with blackcurrant flavors, pricked by the freshness of red raspberries, plumped up by earthy tannins, this 2019 feels as sophisticated as it is ripe. *Wine & Spirits Magazine, 10/2022*

Jancis Robinson

17.5+ Mid crimson. Very, very similar to the Helios Cabernet Franc bottling from the same vineyard on the nose – but with time it reveals a little more density and on the palate there is much more rigour and framework. This clearly has the guts to unfurl and I would wait awhile before opening this if possible. Real refreshment on the end and a medium charge of well-worked tannins. Drier – less sweet – than the Helios. Sturdy and straight-backed. I hesitate to say masculine to Helios's feminine but if I refer to stereotypes, you know what I mean.

Jancis Robinson, 9 Nov 2022



96 Deep garnet-purple in color, the unblended 2019 Sunbasket Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon slowly unfurls to reveal fragrant notes of rose oil, chocolate-covered cherries, and menthol over a cassis and juicy plums core, plus a hint of vanilla. The medium-bodied palate features tightly knit black fruits with loads of baking spice accents and a fine-grained texture, finishing long and lifted.

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent, 2-16-23

purely domestic wine report

95 The nose is perfumed red apple, cherry, licorice, tobacco and camphor. The palate entry is focused pomegranate, mineral and hard cherry leading to a velvet-like core of herb crumbled earth, chocolate and violet finishing with well-integrated acidity.

Doug Wilder, free run juice, purely domestic wine report, May 8, 2022

VIEW FROM THE CELLAR

93 The 2019 Sunbasket Vineyard bottling of Cabernet Sauvignon is outstanding this year. The wine is so polished on both the nose and palate, with the bouquet wafting from the glass in a combination of black cherries, sweet cassis, tobacco leaf, allspice, refined soil tones and a deft touch of new oak that is both spicy and nutty in personality. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and elegant in profile, with a good core of fruit, fine soil signature, ripe, well-integrated tannins and a long, complex and properly youthful finish.

John Gilman, View from the Cellar, Issue #98, March-April 2022

International
WINE REPORT

96 The 2019 Sunbasket Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is another sensational wine from Corison. This is classic Napa Valley Cabernet at its best, displaying remarkable elegance and refinement with a lovely sense of place. It immediately begins to impress with its inviting aromas of black raspberries and currants, which are woven together with dusty graphite, savory tobacco, wet gravel and fresh cut florals all taking shape. The palate is medium-bodied and beautifully structured with fine-grained tannins that result in a gorgeous silky mouthfeel. It displays excellent overall balance of fruit and acidity with a wonderful mineral backbone as well as a remarkable sense of freshness that continues through the finish. This is a simply beautiful style of Napa Cabernet that is already stunning, yet should also age brilliantly.

Joe D'Angelo, International Wine Report, May 2022



97 The really good 2019 'Sunbasket Vineyard' Cabernet Sauvignon is a dense and decadent effort with serious aging potential. Once on the nose this takes on layers of Turkish coffee, pencil lead and deep dark fruits with violets. The heady aromas bring you back to the glass. Ripe and plump on the mouth, this leads with a decadent core of black and blue fruits, with espresso grounds and wet stone undercurrents. Chock full of finesse, and finishing long, this is a stunning wine that is sure to satisfy over the next two decades.

owenbargreen.com, May 23, 2022

vinography

Dark garnet in color, this wine smells of blackcurrant, cocoa powder, and black cherry. In the mouth, black cherry and cola flavors are surrounded by fleecy tannins as bright cassis and blackberry notes linger in the finish with a hint of citrus peel. Excellent acidity. Brimming with youthful energy and a spring in its step. Score: between **9** and **9.5**.

Alder Yarrow, vinography.com, 6/19/22



***** The 2019 Sunbasket is exceptional: supple in texture and both rich and refined in flavor (black currant, blackberry, rose petal, toast, oak), with very fine balance, and a firm, persistent finish. Displays great flavor, depth, balance, and length.

Ronn Wiegand, Restaurant Wine, Issues #204-209, June 2023

JEB DUNNUCK 93 The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Sunbasket Vineyard, which comes from a site in St. Helena, reveals a saturated purple hue as well as lots of ripe currant and plum-like fruits supported by chocolate (and) violets... This rich, medium to full-bodied, mouth-filling Cabernet Sauvignon is one of the bigger, richer wines in the lineup and is going to impress for a solid 15-20 years.

jebdunnuck.com, 3/10/22

Maker's Table The Sunbasket was, as its namesake implies, blooming with fruits and flowers, sunny and gleaming. Its armature of tannins was notably firm when compared against the suppler Kronos. Flavors of red and black fruits glimmered on its satiny acidity, and these lingered long after the sip.

Meg Maker, makerstable.com, October 30, 2024