

## 2013 Corison *Kronos Vineyard* Cabernet Sauvignon



Wow. This inky wine jumps out of the glass with ripe boysenberries and floral perfume. 2013 was a near-perfect vintage with ideal spring weather for flowering, which resulted in a bumper crop of deliciousness. With highs seldom climbing out of the 80F's and chilly nighttime lows, an unseasonably cool summer gave the wine its firm structure. Lush ripe red fruit with balancing natural acidity complement the characteristic *Kronos* viscosity. The tannins are assertive but feel like velvet.

- Cathy Corison, March 2017

### Reviews from our 25-Year Kronos Retrospective Tasting:

**Decanter** 97 A remarkably complete and highly fragrant wine. While some vintages from the late 2000s and early 2010s are notably tight and compact, the 2013 is more generous, offering deep, dark, earthy aromas, high-toned violets, charcuterie, and expressive tanned leather. Medium- to full-bodied on the palate, with assertive, pixelated tannins and a rush of dark cherry, plum, and graphite minerality. The lengthy finish reveals layers of cedar, earthen loam, and pressed flowers, adding to its complexity and depth. (Among a 25-vintage vertical tasted at The Progress in San Francisco in October 2024.)

Jonathan Cristaldi, *Decanter*, 27 Oct, 2024

**vinography**  
a wine blog

#### The Majesty of Time: 25 Years of Corison's Kronos Cabernet

Very dark garnet in the glass, this wine smells of flowers, blueberries, black cherries, and pencil shavings. Gorgeous acidity and brightness make juicy flavors of black cherry and blueberry flavors vibrate on the palate, with tinges of dried herbs and citrus peel. Dried herbs linger in the finish with a hint of licorice. Stunning balance and brightness with incredibly supple tannins. The wine has a floral depth—a descriptor I realize might seem a little puzzling—but it is the phrase that comes to mind as I try to describe this shimmering, stunning wine. “This was an early vintage, but it stayed cool through the summer,” says Corison. Score: around 10.

Alder Yarrow, *Vinography*, December 3, 2024

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### Reviews Upon Release:

**Decanter** California 2013 Vintage Guide: Best producers in the California 2013 vintage

99 Cathy Corison's 2013 Kronos is a little more brooding than her regular Cabernet Sauvignon, with darker fruit tones, richer notes of cocoa and more volume on the palate, but the two share a wonderful perfume of roses and violets, expressed with an exuberance unusual for Cabernet Sauvignon. A stunner.

William Kelley, *Decanter.com*, April 6, 2017

**JANE ANSON**  
INSIDE BORDEAUX

#### Top 5 Non Bordeaux Wines of the Year, 2022

98 I have kept this bottle carefully for years after buying it in London and bringing it over to Bordeaux, and it totally delivered on expectations. To be honest, I had a moment of wondering if I needed to drink it up, and so opened it just in case, but was underestimating how brilliantly Kronos can age. The tension, balance and elegance are striking, but so is the generosity and pleasure - think pure liquorice root, cigar box, tomato leaf, blueberry fruit, rose petals and spiced Christmas cake. Intense and concentrated but languorous and measured. Beautiful wine from a master winemaker.

*janeanson.com*, 29 October 2022

**Wine & Spirits**  
MAGAZINE

#### Corison 2013 Napa Valley Kronos Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

96 Napa Valley cabernet is often formidable, but it's rare to find one that's both formidable and fresh. Kronos is racy in 2013, lean and lithe with the energy and dynamism of the vintage. Kronos is Cathy Corison's estate vineyard, eight acres surrounding her winery on the west side of Highway 29 in southern St. Helena. The cabernet was planted in 1971 on St. George rootstock, which has the benefit of naturally limiting yields; it also helped the vines survive the region's most recent bout with phylloxera. The freshness of this wine's acidity is unusual in contemporary Napa Valley (especially in the up-valley reaches of St. Helena); it lends a tart, fruit-skin crunch to the red cherry and darker plum flavors, and lifts the scent with violet notes. Brilliant cabernet, this is rooted in the best aspects of Napa Valley's past. Cellar a case and it will provide exceptional drinking for years to come.

*wineandspiritsmagazine.com*, 6/17

**96+** Graphite, slate, lavender, cloves and crushed rocks are some of the notes that open up in Cathy Corison's 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Kronos. A deep, inky wine, the 2013 possesses unreal concentration and unctuousness, yet there is plenty of minerality underpinning the fruit. Red cherry jam, rose petal, mint and sweet spices emerge over time, but the 2013 is a wine of pure textural depth and intensity. The 2013 is a wine of unreal finesse. To be released in late winter 2017. *Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Oct. 2015*

#### 2013 Napa Valley: A First Look...

I have been drinking Cathy Corison's Cabernets since the mid 1990s, but this is the first time I have tasted the wines from barrel as such an early stage... Kronos, is well, Kronos. This parcel of head-trained vines on St. George rootstock yields complete, layered wines endowed with expressive perfume, voluptuous fruit and fabulous overall balance, all elements that are found in the 2013 from barrel. *Antonio Galloni, Vinous, April 2014*

*Jancis Robinson*  
JancisRobinson.com

**18.5+** Black core and ruby edges. Star bright in the glass. Expressive perfume on the nose with aromatics of dried roses and cedar accents – these carry into the palate alongside forest-floor elements, mixed spices of cigar box, gunpowder and mixed fruits – crisp red, blue and black fruits with mixed citrus notes. Firm blue plum, redcurrant, blackcurrant, ruby-red grapefruit and dark cocoa powder. Cocoa-powder tannin and balanced acidity. Tons of structure here with quite fine-powder tannin make the wine an impressive balance of approachable and yet with tenacious ageing potential. There is a lot of complexity here that will reveal itself with more time in bottle. Youth offers exotic perfumes currently that will deepen into the wine with age. Nicely done. *Elaine Chukan Brown for jancisrobinson.com, 3/12/19*

Mid crimson with a pale rim. More intense and ripe on the nose than the Spottswoode 2014. Rich but appetising with a light animal note and also some cassis liqueur. Quite marked tannins on the end. *Jancis Robinson, 4 February, 2022*

*International*  
**WINE REPORT**



#### **Top 100 Wines 2017, #14**

**98** The 2013 Kronos Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is another extraordinary showing in this vintage from Cathy Corison... In this vintage Kronos offers striking aromatics of dark cherries, blackberries and hints of red currants woven together with violets, sweet spices, graphite and wet stones, all taking shape in the glass. This continues to impress with its rich, luxurious texture, beautifully polished tannins and remarkable overall balance and depth. Everything comes together with wonderful precision, as it expands seamlessly into the long, supple finish, where spices and gorgeous ripe flavors linger on and on. While this is already spectacular, the structure suggests it will certainly continue to age gracefully for many years to come. Overall, this is an absolutely outstanding effort from Cathy Corison and a testament to the tedious work she devotes to the vineyard to maintain these older vines in order to consistently achieve this high level of quality year after year. *Joe D'Angelo, International Wine Report, February 2017*

### **JamesSuckling.com**

#### **THE TOP 100 REDS OF NAPA VALLEY 2016**

CORISON CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY KRONOS 2013

**96** A glorious old vine wine with mineral, stone, blueberry, black currant and wet earth. Full body, silky tannins and a long finish. Salty undertone, even iodine. There's an ethereal quality to this that makes you think. Released spring of 2017. 400 cases made.

*James Suckling, Wednesday, November 23, 2016*

### **VIEW FROM THE CELLAR**

**96** The just released 2013 Kronos Vineyard cabernet sauvignon from Cathy Corison is an absolute classic in the making. The bouquet is deep, pure and absolutely riveting, soaring from the glass in a blend of black cherries, sweet cassis, Cuban cigars, a classic base of Rutherford Bench soil tones, a touch of allspice and a very sophisticated framing of nutty new oak. On the palate the wine is full and utterly suave on the attack, with glorious depth at the core, remarkable soil inflection for such a young cabernet, ripe seamless tannins and stunning focus and balance on the very, very long and very elegant finish. This is still a very young wine, but when it is ready for primetime drinking, it is going to be one of the legends of the last twenty years of Napa cabernet! The 2013 Kronos tips the scales at 13.4 percent octane and truly deserves the moniker of the Lafite-Rothschild of Napa! 2027-2075+. *John Gilman, View from the Cellar, Issue #69, May-June 2017*

## Bloomberg.com

### The Best Wines I Tasted in 2017

**2013 Corison Kronos Vineyard** - Napa's Cathy Corison has never wavered from producing elegant, terroir-driven cabernets, which are now, thankfully, coming back into vogue. During the 2017 harvest (before the terrible wildfires), as grapes from her great Kronos vineyard were being crushed, I tasted this thrilling wine with her in the winery barn, looking out on the vines it came from. The just-released 2013 is deep and intense, with Corison's trademark savory minerality, spicy red fruit, velvety tannins, and plenty of finesse, a complete template for what Napa cabernet can be. *Elin McCoy, Bloomberg.com, December 21, 2017*



**2013 Corison, "Kronos Vineyard,"** Napa Valley (\$165) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, intense, spicy, cassis and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of dried herbs and anise; full body; nicely balanced, firmly structured, red and dark fruit flavors with good depth and concentration; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows appealing Cabernet fruit along with some elegance.

**Very highly recommended.**

*Nick Ponomareff, California Grapevine, Volume 43, March 2017*

*Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences*  
The Weekly Wine Commentary

### 2013 Corison Kronos Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

**Exceptional** - Cathy Corison makes two of the finest Cabernet Sauvignons in the world... There are a handful of reasons why the Corison wines are sensational, not the least of which is that Cathy and her husband William farm an ancient

block of CS in the heart of the valley that has very carefully been left alone to produce fruit for the annual gift: a house style that varies only by vintage... the Kronos is a wonder of fruit, complexity, nuances of barrel aging, and the potential to be simply amazing in about 20 years... this stuff is worth it. Oh, is it!

*Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences, Volume XX, Issue 22, June 13, 2017*

terroir  
R E V I E W

**Perfumed, elegant, and shimmering old-vine Cabernet**

2013 Corison Cabernet Sauvignon Kronos Vineyard Napa Valley

The 2013 vintage was anodyne, nearly perfect, and the resulting wine is perfumed, lissome, youthful, and promising. It is fragrant of black currants and brambly berries and decorated, as with all of Cathy's Cabernets, with rose petals and violets, anise seed and almost mint; it reads like a blooming field frilled with petals and leaves. The fruit is black-hearted, something like black cherries muddled with tart blueberries, but darker, too, and earthier. Texturally the wine is lustrous and gleaming, the tannins like ribbed silk velvet, but still pleasantly nappy at the finish.

*Meg Houston Maker, terroirreview.com, March 14, 2018*

purely domestic wine report

**94** The nose is a taut black cherry sap and violet pastille. The palate entry is a textured violet and lilac with subtle underlying blackberry and fresh raspberry. The wine is effortlessly elegant with a velvet-like finish.

*Doug Wilder, purely domestic wine report, volume 6.1, October 2017*

## GRAPELIVE: WINE OF THE DAY

2013 Corison, Cabernet Sauvignon, Kronos Vineyard, Napa Valley.

**97 Points** Cathy Corison's 2013 Cabernets are both blockbuster examples of pure Napa Valley fruit from a stellar vintage that stands out for powerfully dense and opulent wines that has amazing classic aging ability, but with gorgeous openness and ripe tannin, especially the latest Kronos, a monopole estate vineyard near Saint Helena on Hwy 29 that is a historic old vine site. ...this 2013 really shows the year in it's texture, density and length, while remaining faithful to Corison's signature style and graceful touch with structured detail and balance... The 2013 Corison Kronos Cabernet Sauvignon starts with it's inky purple/black and garnet color and bouquet of acacia bloom, spiced violets, creme de cassis, cinnamon/vanilla and cedar that leads to a full bodied palate that is wonderfully seamless with polished/ripe/sweet tannin and mouth filling richness and intensity of black fruits with blackberry, plum, racy currant, blueberry and cherry compote as well as light graphite, sage/lavender, pipe tobacco, dusty/stone. The finish is sublimely lingering with bramble/briar berries, framboise, dried roses/incense and black licorice. This is wildly good wine, a celebration of vintage and terroir with stunning concentration, it's a testament to the place, the winemaking and attention to excellence in the vineyard, this is pretty close to perfection!

*grapelive.com, May 8, 2017*

THE ART OF FINE WINE LIVING

LE·PAN

Corison Kronos Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2013

**92** Tasted from the barrel, the 2013 Kronos is incredibly concentrated, with layers of plush blackberry, plum and cedar flavors. The finish is long – at least 45 seconds – with anise and savory spices coming through. This wine has great potential to age for 20-plus years.

*Jeannie Cho Lee, Le Pan, LP Guide, September-October 2015*