

# 2013 Corison Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon



2013 was a near-perfect vintage. The weather was ideal for flowering in the spring, which resulted in a plentiful crop, followed by an unseasonably cool summer with highs seldom climbing out of the 80F's, and nary a heat spike over 95F. The nighttime temperatures were correspondingly chilly, which gave the wine a firm structure on which to hang the complex flavors. A particularly luscious texture coupled with snappy natural acidity is a delight, providing a yin and yang duality. Aromas and flavors tend toward the dark end of the Cabernet fruit spectrum with blueberries, black cherries, blackberries and dark plums all singing in close harmony. Complexing notes include tobacco, baking spices, chocolate, and savory herbs including sage, thyme and basil. Floral notes of violets and rose petals play with a notable stony minerality in the aromas and long finish.

- Cathy Corison, August 2016

## Decanter

**Californian Cabernet 2013: Top five wines of the vintage**  
Corison, Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2013

*Decanter.com, October 4, 2016*

**96** Corison, Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2013 - Beautifully perfumed aromas of rose petal, violets, blackberry, dark chocolate and incipient cigar tobacco burst from the glass in a striking array, the prelude to a wine that's structured around refined, savoury tannins and juicy acidity. An ethereal and classically proportioned Cabernet which will age effortlessly thanks to its flawless balance, likely putting on weight with bottle age. Terrific stuff; not to be missed. *2016 California Wine Guide*

### California 2013 Vintage Guide: Best producers in the California 2013 vintage

Cabernet Sauvignon: Ridge Vineyards, MacDonald, **Corison**, Philip Togni, Dominus Estate, Dunn Vineyards, Schrader Cellars, Screaming Eagle, BOND, Harlan Estate, Maybach, Rivers-Marie

*William Kelley, Decanter Magazine, June 24, 2016*

**94** ...there's an air of precise, pure wild blueberry fruit. The soft, plush palate is unforced and gentle, concentrated but not extracted, still tight and all about the fruit and velvet texture. A little oak spice on the finish to lift it all.

*Anne Krebiehl, Decanter Magazine, December 2016*



**94** A deep, inky wine, the 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon is endowed with serious depth. Here the flavors are unusually dark and intense, with plenty of blue and black stone fruits. Graphite, cloves and licorice contribute to an overall impression of gravitas... Hints of violet, lavender and plum add the final shades of nuance. All of the signatures of the vintage come through beautifully. The translucent, mineral-laced finish is especially appealing. Frankly, it's hard to put the glass down.

*Antonio Galloni, Vinous – explore all things wine, Oct. 2015*

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

Corison - 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 at such an early stage. It is fascinating to taste the vineyards that go into the Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon separately. In particular, the 2013 Cabernet from Hayne is compelling for the striking purity of its fruit. Some of the other benchland sites display more ferrous, mineral notes that add complexity to the blend.

*Antonio Galloni, tastings, Vinous – explore all things wine, April 2014*

## VIEW FROM THE CELLAR

**94+** A year's worth of bottle age has certainly not done anything but enhance the perception of high quality in this top flight vintage from Cathy. The bouquet is starting to blossom nicely since I last tasted the wine in the spring of 2015, offering up a pure and nascently complex blend of black berries, black cherries, tobacco leaf, Rutherford dust, smoke, gravelly soil tones and a discreet base of new oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and strikingly pure on the attack, with a fine core, ripe tannins and a beautifully balanced, long and utterly seamless finish. This is really a stunning bottle in the making and all it needs is time in the cellar to come into its own.

*John Gilman, View from the Cellar, Issue #69, May-June 2017*



**CORISON** Napa Valley 2013 "...an incisive, fairly complex look at the grape that quietly shows off the grape's more elegant side."

*Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine, December 2015*

## International WINE REPORT

95 The 2013 is another remarkable wine to add to the impressive list of amazing Napa Valley Cabernet from Cathy Corison. This instantly opens with irresistible aromas of fresh ripe blackberries and currants woven together with loads of intense violets and graphite, along with hints of dried sage and pencil shavings. On the palate this shows remarkable concentration and depth, yet remains beautifully balanced and focused with wonderful purity through the velvety, layered finish. This improves with each second in the glass and I only expect this to continue to evolve gracefully for many years to come. The 2013 certainly has a wonderful future in store.

*Joe D'Angelo, International Wine Report, September 2015*

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

for at least a decade since it is made from very mature vines and by a wine maker whose track record is unblemished for perfection.

**Exceptional - 2013 Corison Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley:** The classic 1980s Napa Cabernet aroma of sage, red cherry, cassis and a trace of tar. This is a superb example of a Napa Valley Cabernet at its best, a wine that will age for at least a decade since it is made from very mature vines and by a wine maker whose track record is unblemished for perfection.

*Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences, Volume XX - Issue 7, November 20, 2016*



2013 Corison, Napa Valley – Medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, deep, blueberry and blackberry fruit aroma with herbal notes and hints of cassis, mocha, tobacco, and baking spices; full body; deep, concentrated, red and black fruit flavors that are well balanced and firmly structured; full tannin; lingering aftertaste...

**Very highly recommended.** *California Grapevine, Volume 42, February 2016*

**JamesSuckling.com** 93 A very minerally and subtle wine with blueberry, blackberry... Some saltiness. Full to medium body, balanced and refined. Delicious already but shows wonderful tension and finesse. Drink or hold.

*James Suckling, January 15, 2016*



92 ...this wine allows the region's generosity to show through without any excess weight or aggressive tannins... (a) red currant-scented cabernet, fragrant and clean, with a spark of acidity to balance the fleshy richness of the fruit. A juicy, mouthwatering wine for roast duck.

*Wine & Spirits Magazine, January 2016*

## NAPA WINE —taste—

With the popularity pendulum swinging back toward graceful wines with balanced alcohol in Napa Valley, Cathy Corison is often cited as a non-wavering flag-bearer for this style. Cathy and her husband are not just spokespersons on style, however, but they also get down and dirty in the vineyard and cellar, involved every step of the way in the creation of their wines.

Tasting a Corison wine is tasting this "popular-again" style of Napa Valley cabernet sauvignon. But don't think you won't get rich blackberry fruit -- it's there -- along with violet floral, dark cocoa and spice complexity; all served up on a structured yet juicy palate.

*Napa Wine – Taste, Catherine Buge, 9/11/17*

**Hawk Wakawaka** - The 2013 Corison Napa Valley is one of the best vintages I've ever had from @cathycorison (+ I have had all of them). It's a perfect harmony of flavor to structure, both delicious + deftly formed. Striking.

*Elaine Brown, 1/25/16, [www.instagram.com/p/BA-dGfxo6lk/](https://www.instagram.com/p/BA-dGfxo6lk/)*

## terroir R E V I E W

The wine is high toned, scented of violets, apple blossom, red apple skin, red plums, and raspberry. The texture is light, with a pronounced acidity mid-palate and expansive flavors of cassis, anise, and (again) violets. The texture is velvety, with a blaze of acidity at finish and a savoriness like roasted walnuts. Curiously both the most floral and the most savory of the wines tasted here, the latter likely because of bottle age. Highly drinkable now, but with a long window ahead.

*Meg Maker, Terroir Review, June 21, 2020*



## maker's table

Highly perfumed, it's suffused with high-toned red cherries, black raspberries, and black currants. The texture is silky and sueded but with sparkly acidity that glisters in the mid-palate. The use of oak is restrained, with its nearly imperceptible influence of toast, wood tannin, and barrel spice. On Day Two I found more cassis in the wine, plus something akin to lavender... It's light-hearted now, and its copious shiny cherry fruit makes it feel clean and fresh-washed, a wine without artifice. I want to taste this vintage again in two years, then three more, and so on.

*Meg Houston Maker, makerstable.com, January 9, 2017*

**92** A hugely successful Cabernet for Corison in this vintage, combining freshness, lift and wonderful intensity. The flavors are ripe, juicy and intense, while at the same time filled with detail and nuances that make you keep going back to the glass. Long finish. Potential to age 15-plus years.

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

## VIEW FROM THE CELLAR

**94** Cathy Corison's 2013 Napa Valley bottling is the first cabernet sauvignon I have tasted from this vintage, and the wine is an absolute classic in the making. The beautifully youthful and pure nose wafts from the glass in a blend of red and black cherries, a hint of meatiness, incipient notes of Rutherford Dust, cigar wrapper, a touch of allspice and a very refined framing of cedary oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied, focused and impeccably balanced, with a fine core of fruit, ripe tannins, lovely soil inflection and outstanding length and grip on the cool, classy and nascently complex finish. At 13.5 percent alcohol, this wine is just perfect in all respects and simply needs the addition of bottle age to blossom into a hauntingly beautiful bottle of cabernet sauvignon. *John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2015, #58*