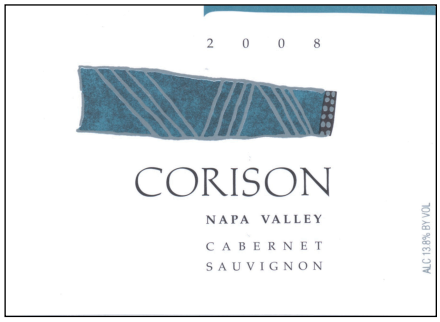
2008 Corison Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon



2008 saw a second year of drought and a heat spike during flowering which kept the crop very small. Early budbreak got the ball rolling in the spring but an unusually cool summer followed giving us the long, even ripening we hope for.

The wines are classic. Juicy and forward, the 2008 reminds me of the 2004. It has evolved quickly in the bottle with fruit flavors favoring the plum, cassis and blackberry end of the spectrum. Notes of cocoa and spice add richness. The feel in the mouth is silky and supple. - *Cathy Corison, September 2011*

Retrospective Reviews:

VIEW FROM THE CELLAR **93** The 2008 Napa cabernet from Cathy Corison is a really beautiful young bottle of wine. The alcohol content here tips the scales at a very respectable 13.8 percent, which keeps the wine cool on the palate and very light on its feet. The deep and youthfully complex nose wafts from the glass in a refined blend of black cherries, dark chocolate, a nice touch of Rutherford dust, woodsmoke, gentle notes of violet and a judicious framing of new oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, ripe and very suave on the attack, with a classy base of soil, lovely mid-palate depth, fine-grained tannins and lovely length and grip on the focused and elegant finish. This is my kind of Napa cabernet!

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

purely domestic wine report **94** A nose of cedar, cranberry and currant overlaid with chocolate, cherry and menthol. The palate is brilliant in its suppleness, polished dry red fruits, cocoa and crème de cassis. Beautiful throughout and elegantly mature. *Doug Wilder, purely domestic wine report, April 2017*

vinography a wine blog Dark garnet in the glass, this wine smells of green herbs, cherry, tobacco leaf, and plum. In the mouth tight muscular tannins wrap around a deliciously juicy core of cherry, cocoa powder, and graphite. Fantastic acidity and length. The tannins are still tight, but this wine will blossom into something gorgeous in 10 years time. Hard not to drink it now, however, give its delicious sweetness of fruit. 13.8% alcohol.
Score: around **9.5**. *Alder Yarrow, vinography.com, 6.27.2015*

Napa Valley Then & Now

One of the richer, more luscious offerings from Cathy Corison, this wine opens with scents of cigar ash, black olive, cassis, and wet slate. On the palate it is dark, intense, and layered with a generous mid-palate and the tug of stout tannins. *Kelli White, 2015*

Reviews Upon Release:

San Francisco Chronicle

2008 Napa Cabernets: The Chronicle recommends
The latest bottles from Cathy Corison are better than ever, and as a benchmark of the continuity of Napa, they are worth seeking out. A vintage like 2008 underscores Napa's worthy reputation as a place where the extraordinary can be grown. It offered wines with timelessness and depth, and in the end it's a year that has done Napa Valley proud. *Jon Bonné, San Francisco Chronicle, June 2011*

Top 100 Wines of 2011, San Francisco Chronicle
Cathy Corison's less-is-more approach is a pleasure to behold... The classic graphite, sandalwood, green olive and lively cherry and plum fruit keep evolving and deepening, so keep this bottle for a decade or more. Stunningly firm and aromatic. *Jon Bonné, San Francisco Chronicle, 4 December 2011*

San Francisco Chronicle

With a few extra months, plush plum and cassis fruit has fleshed out the usual Corison structure. There's still a graphite firmness, plus tobacco and a smoky burnt-earth quality. Amply ripe and showing that great precision.

Jon Bonné, San Francisco Chronicle, January 1, 2012

California GRAPEVINE

Medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, forward, intense, cedary, cassis and dark berry fruit aroma with toasty notes and hints dried herbs and vanilla; full body; herbal, cedary, cassis and dark cherry fruit flavors with firm acidity; medium-full to full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows distinctive varietal character and deserves another three to five more years of bottle aging. **Very highly recommended**.

California Grapevine, October-November 2011

Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences
The Weekly Wine Commentary

Exceptional - This wine is made in the style that earned Cathy Corison the title of one of Napa's greatest wine makers. I find sheer delight in the faint herb, tea leaf, and olive notes amid bright cherry fruit and only 13.8% alcohol. The wine's pH 3.56 balance is near perfect for aging.

Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences, Volume XVI, Issue 36, November 3, 2011

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

92 The 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon comes across as very classic in its mid-weight body and flavor profile. Dark plums, herbs, cassis and tobacco are some of the aromas and flavors that emerge from this beautifully delineated, elegant Cabernet Sauvignon.... a wine that impresses for its understated finesse.

Antonio Galloni, Issue #198, 12/23/2011

RESTAURANT WINE
BUYING SELLING SERVING
The Full Service Guide to On Sale Beverage Profits

★★★★+ Aromatic and fresh in character, this is an excellent Cabernet, with blackberry, cassis, cherry, rose petal, toast, and modest new oak character. Beautifully balanced and medium long on the finish.

Ronn Wiegand, Restaurant Wine, Issues #141-143, 2012