2023 Corison Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon



In 2023, the 3-year drought broke in the Napa Valley, with ample winter and spring rains. Ideal weather at flowering yielded a bumper crop, and the ripening season was one of the longest and coolest in over a decade. With the luxury of extended hang time, this is one of the most anticipated vintages in recent memory.

Vibrant black cherry and cassis fruit dance with a perfume of dried roses and violets. Flinty mineral and savory nuances of dried Italian herbs and warm cedar intertwine to create remarkable complexity.

~ Cathy Corison and Grace Corison Martin, July 2026

Decanter **97** In 2023, the wine is bright and energetic, offering vivid red berry fruit with a perfumed lift and a pronounced mineral streak. The fruit is vibrant and juicy, held in check by a firm framework of wonderfully crisp, velvety tannins with a cocoa-powder texture. The finish is exceptionally long, with a subtle saline edge that adds precision and drive. As is typical of Corison's wines, it is likely to enter an early, fruit-driven phase before closing down, then re-emerging with grace - built to age effortlessly for 30 to 40 years. *Jonathan Cristaldi, Decanter, 17 Mar 2026*

Antonio Galloni vinous **94** The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley) is gorgeous. Deep and layered, with gorgeous textural presence, the 2023 is a delight. Strong savory Cabernet Sauvignon inflections meld into a core of deep, vibrant fruit... it is a serious and seriously impressive wine. Vineyard sites are... all St. Helena benchland sites. *Antonio Galloni, Vinous, November 2025*

vinography Dark garnet in the glass, with purple highlights, this wine smells of black-currants, sweet oak, violets, and black plum. In the mouth, blackcurrant, black plum, and dried flowers are wrapped in fleecy, supple tannins and shot through with a heavy dose of sweet oak, its vanilla scents lingering in the finish. Gorgeous acidity and balance... Score: **around 9.5**.

Alder Yarrow, Vinography.com, 4/16/26

WINE ENTHUSIAST **97** This is a classic example of Corison's style on display, with elegant florals and deep mineral aromas mingling with cocoa and black plum on the nose. The palate is lifted and persistent, with juicy acidity and velvet-soft tannin wrapping around flavors of deep black cherry, blackberry, graphite, violets, and black pepper that ebb and flow across the minute long finish. Delicious now, this will age beautifully for at least fifteen years in the cellar. *Tom R. Capo, Wine Enthusiast, November 1, 2026*

JAMESSUCKLING.COM **95** Dark-fruited and dense, with lovely perfume. Potpourri, violets, graphite, dark cherries and spices linger on the full-bodied yet restrained palate, with fine-boned tannins and a mouthwatering finish. A lovely example of cabernet sauvignon from a cool vintage. Delicious. Drink or hold.

Ryan Montgomery, jamessuckling.com, Feb 2, 2026

OWEN BARGREEN **97** This shows up inky in the glass, offering red raspberry and dried herbs on the nose with hints of milk chocolate and pencil lead. The palate is lush, seamless and filled with fabulous finesse, with serious volume. A total stunner, with a light dusting of salinity, and some serious finesse, enjoy over the next twenty years to come.

Owen Bargreen, owenbargreen.com, May 2, 2026

THE WINE PALATE **94** Deep garnet-purple colored... notes of fresh red and black currants, kirsch, and wild blueberries, plus suggestions of pencil shavings and lavender. Medium-bodied, the palate is tightly wound with energetic red and blue fruit layers and a firm, grainy texture, finishing long and refreshing.

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, TheWinePalate.com, April 2026

JancisRobinson.com **17+** Deep purple. Quite floral on the nose with violet notes and high-toned black fruit – blueberry and black plum. Lovely freshness with high but balanced acidity and a light but long finish. Different from the robust wines that are the norm for modern-day Napa but very classic for Corison. *Samantha Cole-Johnson, jancisrobinson.com, 19 Jun 2026*

VIEW FROM THE CELLAR **96** Cathy Corison's regular bottling of cabernet sauvignon is superb in 2023. It comes in at 13.7 percent octane this year and offers up a vibrant and complex bouquet of black cherries, cassis, a beautiful base of soil, Rutherford Dust spice tones, Cuban cigar wrapper and a beautifully understated and complex blend of new oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and beautifully reflective of its underlying soils, with a gorgeous core of fruit, fine-grained tannins, picture perfect balance and a very, very long, complex and seamless finish. This is one of the best "regular bottlings" of cabernet sauvignon I can ever recall tasting from Cathy, and I am old enough to have started selling her beautiful wines all the way back in the inaugural 1987 vintage!
John Gilman, View from the Cellar #123, May-June 2026

International WINE REPORT **95** The 2023 Saint Helena Cabernet Sauvignon stands out as another exceptional effort from Corison. It opens with strikingly aromatic notes of blackberry and cassis, layered with fresh florals, spice, sage, and hints of crushed stone and graphite. On the palate, it shows a medium to full-bodied frame with refined structure, its polished tannins neatly supporting the fruit core. The wine is marked by impressive precision, balance, and clarity, with a vibrant freshness that carries through the extended finish. Already highly enjoyable, it also has the depth and structure to evolve beautifully over time.
J. D'Angelo, International Wine Report, April 2026

free run juice **96** The nose is lavender, blackberry with notes of vanilla bean, strawberry crowns, and ground herbs. The palate entry is delicate herb and a core of dried berries finishing with the classic understated Corison elegance. Drink 2026-2044 *Doug Wilder, Free Run Juice, August 1, 2026*

Wine Spectator **93** This delivers a pure, focused and clearly defined beam of mulberry and boysenberry *pate de fruit* notes flanked with a hint of apple wood and kissed with hibiscus and iris notes on the finish. Fine-grained and with a subtle iron ping chiming amid the floral-accented finish. A bombast-free expression of the vintage. *James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, August 10, 2026*

Drink the Bottles Aromas of blackberry, cassis, violet and graphite lead to a layered palate of dark cherry, plum and fine-grained tannins. Focused and refined, with exceptional structure and a long, elegant finish.
Jeff Lawson, Drink the Bottles - Holiday Gift Guide, November 2026