



9 Outstanding Sonoma Cabernet Sauvignons to Buy Right Now

We usually look to Sonoma for Pinot Noir, but there are outstanding Cabs to drink too.

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The prevailing wisdom in the wine world is that for the finest New World Cabernet Sauvignon we turn to Napa Valley and for the best Pinot Noir we look to Sonoma. The most widely grown red grape in the world, Cabernet Sauvignon is firmly at home in Sonoma County, where it thrives on around 12,000 acres, which, surprisingly, is almost as many acres as there are of Pinot Noir. Cabernet Sauvignon has a naturally thick skin, and in colder regions in Sonoma the grape's protective outer covering can be even thicker, adding to wine's rich tannic structure. Ample aging in oak barrels contributes additional tannins and top notes of baking spices and vanilla.

Cabernet Sauvignon was first brought to Sonoma during the Gold Rush of the 1850s and has been extensively cultivated there for more than 150 years. Many well-known estates have been producing excellent single vineyard versions since the 1970s. With bold tannins, rich black and red fruit flavors, and bountiful earthy and spicy notes, Cabernet from Sonoma packs all the power you expect from this noble variety. Here are our picks for drinking right now or maturing to further perfection for a few more years.

Brion 2019 Moon Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon Moon Mountain District Sonoma Valley California



Brion Wise is the name behind Brion and together with winemakers Julien Fayard, Mark Herald, and Massimo Monticelli this amazing team makes stunning wines in both Napa Valley and the Moon Mountain District of Sonoma Valley. This 2019 Sonoma Cab is garnet ruby colored with aromas of ripe black plum, black cassis, and red raspberry. Grapes are grown on iron rich soils so you can definitely feel the mineral and metallic notes in the palate along with rich red and black fruit flavors. The tannins are velvety soft and flavors of black currant, black plum, and red raspberry intermingle seamlessly. There's a pleasant splash of bright acidity in the back of the palate before the long, long, finish.

BUY NOW: \$210