



Boardroom Fall - Winter 2017 Longboard 2 - NorCal

Halyard: Brut Sparkling 2012

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier - Sonoma Valley

From a secret, small brand comes this crisp, racy, fruit-powered bubbly with notes of baked apples, lemon/lime and lemon cream. Aged a full four years on lees, this is your serious down-to-earth sparkling with a hint of nerdiness. Serve with the Queen's New Year's speech if you're in Denmark or as a welcome wine for guests – and above all, let us know how you like it!

Best: Now – 2020

Honig: Rutherford Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2016

91% Sauvignon Blanc, 8% Semillon, 1% Muscat – Rutherford, Napa Valley

The Reserve edition of Honig's Sauvignon Blanc is from their own Rutherford vineyard. Aged 6 months in 40% new, French oak and 60% neutral oak, it's richer than their traditional Napa Sauvignon Blanc. Discover fresh citrus and melon with overtones of floral notes and honeysuckle. This will be a classy first-course wine on any festive table.

Best: Now-2020

Bedrock: Zinfandel Carlisle Vineyard 2015

100% Zinfandel - Russian River Valley - Parker: 95, Vinous: 95, Wine Spectator: 94

There are too many superlatives from wine writers' pens to describe this wine. Suffice it to say, The Wine Advocate wrote, "A wine of extraordinary nuance and pedigree, the Carlisle is yet another stunning, head-turning wine from Morgan Peterson and Chris Cottrell at Bedrock." Expect an impressively rich and structured wine with blueberry and cherry flavors accented by bitter chocolate, dried sage and smoky licorice hints. We recommend letting it settle for a few years before enjoying.

Best: 2020 – 2027



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Argot: Posted Syrah 2012

100% Syrah - Steiner Vineyard, Sonoma - 75 cases - Parker: 94, Wine Spectator: 93

Steiner Vineyard in Sonoma encompasses the spirit of Argot: It's an incredibly cool site with steep slopes - one that makes you work extra hard and walk that extra mile. On this site, Justin Harmon grows both Pinot for his Madras wine and Syrah for this Posted. Having seen 28 months in oak, the result is a dark, brooding beast of a Syrah brimming with nuances. Search for exotic resins, eastern baking spices, bacon and a florality speaking to lavender and eucalyptus. A long, lingering finish continues to be dominated by dark fruits and savory spices. Above all, patience rewards!

Best: 2020 - 2028

Keplinger: Sumo 2014

84% Petite Sirah, 13% Syrah, 3% Viognier - Shake Ridge Vineyard, Sierra Foothills - 290 cases

Galloni: 92-95

Helen Keplinger continues to solidify her reputation as one of the top winemakers on the north coast. She is known for her full-bodied reds, and Sumo is no exception. This Petite Sirah (pun probably intended with *that* name) will have you floored with its powerful, intense fruit, pure dark chocolate, mint and exotic spices. Antonio Galloni called this "an incredible wine from start to finish ... well-balanced and layered with the right amount of fruit/acidity ratios." Cellar or decant for 2 hours.

Best: 2022-2028

Grgich Hills: Yountville Old Vine Cabernet Sauvignon 2012

92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc - Yountville, Napa Valley

Parker: 94, Suckling: 93

This rare, top-shelf Cab is sourced from some of the oldest Cabernet vines in Napa planted more than half a century ago on Grgich' cool Yountville site. It brings out the best of a Napa Cab: Fewer grapes mean a more concentrated flavour, greater depth and a pure expression of terroir with rich flavors of blackberries, black licorice and a hint of allspice with a long, seductive finish. This complex wine with moderate tannins is aged in French oak for 21 months then moved to large oak casks for six additional months According to Parker, this may be the finest Cabernet Sauvignon he has ever tasted from Grgich Hills.

Best: 2020 - 2030