

Boardroom Summer 2017 Longboard 1 - North Coast

Grgich Hills Estate: Chardonnay 40th Anniversary Edition 2014

Carneros, Napa Valley - Suckling: 92, Wine & Spirits: 92, Wine Enthusiast: 91

Last year, Grgich Hills celebrated the 40th anniversary of the pivotal Paris tasting in 1976. In 1977, Mike Grgich and business partner Austin Hills bought their first lot in Napa, and this 2014 small-lot biodynamically farmed Chardonnay celebrates this hallmark. Take a stroll down memory lane: It's even cleaner and more crisp than Grgich' regular Chardonnay and takes on a style reminiscent of the one with which Mike Grgich won the Paris tasting. Try it with smoked salmon, crispy crab cakes or chicken Dijon.

Best: 2018 - 2021

Argot: Pinot Noir Bastard Tongue 2014

Sonoma - 225 cases - Parker: 96

Bastard Tongue was one of the wines that put Justin Harmon on the map. It caught Robert Parker's attention a few vintages ago and with a whopping 96 points, this vintage is the pinnacle of B.T. so far. Raised in 85% new oak for 22 months, it's deep, indulgent, and a perfect combination of earth and fruit. Unfined, unfiltered and only 225 cases made, so count yourself lucky to have a bottle!

Best: 2018 - 2028

3 Sticks: Head High Red Wine 2013

36% Malbec, 20% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Zinfandel, 11% Grenache - Sonoma - CellarTracker: 89

3 Sticks is a collaboration among many Sonoma friends, such as Bill Price of Kosta Browne, Gary Farrell and Kistler. Head High - deeply rooted in surfing - is sustainably farmed and spent 15 months in 35% new oak. It's easy to drink and delicious right now, especially with a nice piece of grilled meat and corn. In short, kick off those socks, sit back and feel the sand between your toes.

Best: Now-2020



Boardroom Summer 2017 Longboard 1 - North Coast

Peirson Meyer: Maquette 2014

45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc – Calistoga, Napa Valley – 150 cases -Parker: 92, Galloni: 92

We've come to expect great things from the Peirson Meyer team, and this small-production, single-vineyard, right-bank blend from Kenefick Ranch in Calistoga is no exception: it is another stunner. While Merlot adds juiciness, there's plenty of tannic grip and brooding power from the rest of the blend, earning it a solid 92 points from both Parker and Galloni. Cellar it safely for another decade or so.

Best: 2020-2028

Dashe Cellars: Zinfandel, Todd Brothers Ranch 2014

100% Zinfandel - Alexander Valley, Sonoma - 260 cases - Parker: 90, Wine Spectator: 90

You're the first to try our latest producer, Dashe Cellars! In our opinion, Sonoma Zins are the most complex and interesting out there, and we love that Dashe focuses on local Zins that are cool and complex with lots of tobacco, graphite and toned-down fruit. The Todd Brothers Ranch is located in Geyserville and the 55-year-old thick, gnarled vines planted on the steep red rock slope always produce jet-black, intensely-flavored and very complex grapes, making for some ageworthy Zins. Sold out in the US; only a few cases made it to Europe.

Best: 2020-2024

Vellum: Cabernet Sauvignon 2008

77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot, 8% Merlot - Coombsville, Napa Valley - 900 6-packs - Winner: 2011 Decanter World Wine Awards

Bet 'ya didn't know Napa's newest sub-AVA, Coombsville! Located in southern Napa Valley (just east of Carneros), the Coombsville soils are dominated by volcanic rhyolitic tuff. The cooling effects of marine fog occur earlier and last longer than in the more northern regions and temperatures are less extreme, leading to a longer growing season. Harvested weeks prior to most Napa Cabs, and keeping the alcohol under 14%, this wine is structured and old-world in style, and an absolute beauty right now. Vellum is organically farmed, unfined, unfiltered – and tiny by Napa standards. Find an occasion and share this Decanter-winner now!

Best: 2017-2018