

roots run deep

WINERY



PRESS COMPOSITE

EDUCATED GUESS NAPA COUNTY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

90 Points | 2019 vintage | James Suckling

Notes of ripe, spiced plums, licorice and cocoa nibs. Some vanilla with a hint of mint, too. Full body. Soft and round with a tannic yet fruity finish.

90 Points | 2018 vintage | James Suckling

A medium-bodied red with aromas and flavors of blackberry, blackcurrant leaf, dried citrus zest, graphite and praline. Firm, chewy tannins. Generous spice and fruit-peel flavors.

91 Points | 2017 vintage | James Suckling

A straightforward cab with currants, plums and hints of hazelnuts that highlight the medium-bodied palate. Round tannins. 86% cabernet sauvignon, 7% petit verdot, 5% merlot and 2% cabernet franc.

EG BY EDUCATED GUESS NORTH COAST CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Best of Class | 2017 vintage | 2020 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

90 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine Enthusiast Buying Guide

This wine shows good concentration in color, flavor and texture. It is deep and dark, with ripe, jammy tones of blackberry and black cherry. Significant baking-spice elements add complexity, while fine-grained tannins add texture. —J.G.

EDUCATED GUESS NAPA COUNTY MERLOT

88 Points | 2016 vintage | Vinous by Antonio Galloni

2016 Merlot Educated Guess Napa County Merlot is a bold, luscious wine loaded with inky, jammy fruit, crème de cassis, chocolate and sweet spice... the 2016 offers plenty of juiciness and intensity.

Best of Class | 2015 vintage | 2018 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

EDUCATED GUESS SONOMA COAST PINOT NOIR

88 Points | 2019 vintage | Wine Spectator

A firm blend of savory spice and dried berry flavors show hints of sun-dried tomato, with leafy and stemmy accents on the finish. Drink now. 5,030 cases made. — K.M.

Double Gold Medal | 2018 vintage | 2021 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

88 Points | 2017 vintage | Wine Spectator

Spicy and juicy, with roasted notes to the dried plum and berry flavors. Forest floor accents show on the finish. Drink now. 4,831 cases made. — K.M.

EDUCATED GUESS SONOMA COAST CHARDONNAY

89 Points | 2019 vintage | Wine Spectator

Juicy, with hints of mesquite to the baked apple and dried pear flavors that turn ripe midpalate, followed by cooking spice accents on the nicely oaky finish.

Gold Medal | 2018 vintage | 2021 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

Gold Medal | 2017 vintage | 2020 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition

88 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine Spectator

Plush, with plenty of fresh spicy notes to the fresh-cut Gala apple and Bosc pear flavors. Creamy finish.

EG BY EDUCATED GUESS NORTH COAST RED WINE BLEND

87 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine Enthusiast

This full-bodied wine offers a ripe fruit aroma that is generously shaded by tones of vanilla, nutmeg, cedar and smoke. It has a touch of tannins that strengthen the texture.

BOUND AND DETERMINED NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

91 Points | 2018 vintage | James Suckling

Aromas of mulberries, wild currants, fresh flowers, pine needles, incense and grilled herbs. It's full-bodied with firm, plush tannins. Balanced, with a fragrant, floral edge and a supple finish.

90 Points | 2017 vintage | James Suckling

A generous, medium-to full-bodied red with aromas and flavors of grilled black plums, burnt orange, black peppercorn, praline and toffee. Firm, chewy tannins. Flavorful.

91 Points | 2016 vintage | James Suckling

A fresh, compact cab with currant and blackberry character and hints of spices. Medium to full body. Firm tannins and a flavorful finish. 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, with merlot, malbec and petit verdot.

HYPOTHESIS OAKVILLE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

92 Points | 2018 vintage | James Suckling

Currants, plums and cherries with violets and bark on the nose, following through to a full body with round, juicy tannins and a long, flavorful finish.

91 Points | 2016 vintage | James Suckling

A bigger style of red with lots of ripe fruit and showy new wood, giving lots of vanilla highlights. Full body. Chewy tannins. 85% cabernet sauvignon, 12% malbec and 3% merlot. Drink or hold.

THE PH.D. HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

93 Points | 2018 vintage | James Suckling

A big, rich red with blackberries and blackcurrants, as well as some chocolate and walnut undertones. It's full and flavorful. A little old-school in its richness and density. Give it time to come together. 100% cabernet sauvignon.

95-97 Points | 2016 Barrel Sample | Robert Parker's Wine Advocate

THE PH.D. HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON (cont.)

90 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine & Spirits Magazine

Mostly cabernet sauvignon from a high-elevation vineyard on Howell Mountain, The PhD contains two percent malbec and three percent merlot from the valley floor, pointing up some bright raspberry-like highlights over the black tannins. It's mouthcoating and dense when first opened, needing plenty of air to show itself with more clarity. For the cellar.

THE VALEDICTORIAN HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

93 Points | 2018 vintage | James Suckling

This red is deep and full, yet juicy and fresh at the same time. Lots of blackcurrants, black cherries and plums, some sweet vanilla and pine needles with a hint of wet rock. Full body and a big tannin structure that needs a couple of years to soften. But it remains fresh and toned, succulent and balanced. Long finish. 85% cabernet sauvignon, 10% petit verdot and 5% malbec.

90 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine & Spirits Magazine

Like the 2016 Graduate, this blend includes malbec and merlot. The variety brings a sweetness to the wine, a candied plum note to counter the Howell Mountain rocky bitterness of tannins. This is powerful, sleek and generous—Howell Mountain unconstrained.

THE GRADUATE HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

92 Points | 2018 vintage | James Suckling

This wine has aromas of ripe blackberries and blackcurrants, spiced oak, chocolate and dried rosemary. Full-bodied with developed fruit and a soft structure. Ripe and juicy. Long and rich finish, but it remains fresh. 96% cabernet sauvignon, 3% petit verdot and 1% malbec.

94 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine & Spirits Magazine

In 2017, Macario Montoya joined Mark Albrecht's team at Roots Run Deep as winemaker, responsible for blending four different "Higher Education" cabernets. Each originates at a different block in the vineyard, which ranges in elevation from 1,700 to 2,000 feet; each is fermented with a different strain of yeasts and aged in different cooperage. This one spends its time in Seguin Moreau barrels, and the blend includes five percent each of malbec and merlot from Pritchard Hill; those factors tame the dynamic power of its mountain-grown tannins, yielding a trumpet blare of volcanic-soil intensity. Having tasted all four, this one struck our panelists as the most vibrant, layering red, yellow and orange-toned fruit in sun- set colors, lasting on herbs, smoke and depths of earthy savor. It's a complex wine, with all of its details aligned.

THE SCHOLAR HOWELL MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

92 Points | 2016 vintage | James Suckling

Lovely aromas of blackberries, pine needles, wet earth and hints of vanilla. Full body. Round and creamy. 95% cabernet sauvignon with malbec and merlot.

91 Points | 2016 vintage | Wine & Spirits Magazine

The Scholar blends in a small amount of malbec and merlot from lower elevations. It's violet scented, with a savory note of earth and game. The structure feels formal, the volcanic tannins lasting for minutes on the breath. Decant it if you open it now, to serve with grilled lamb.

THE PH.D. NAPA VALLEY MALBEC

95 Points | 2016 vintage | The Wine Advocate

Deep purple-black, the 2016 Malbec The Ph.D. (a barrel sample) gives up an expressive nose of black cherry cordial, stewed plums and blackberry pie with hints of fallen leaves, dried Provence herbs, black olives and black loam. Full-bodied with a firm backbone of grainy tannins and background freshness, it possesses a great concentration of earth-laced black fruits and finishes on a lingering black truffle note.

THE PH.D. NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

94 Points | 2016 vintage | The Wine Advocate

A barrel sample, the deep purple-black colored 2016 Merlot The Ph.D. reveals notions of baked red and black plums, blueberry compote and warm blackberries with touches of spice box and underbrush. Full-bodied with a velvety frame and just enough freshness, the palate delivers bags of spicy black fruits and a peppery kick on the finish.