

CONNOISSEURS' GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA WINE



Baldacci

FAMILY VINEYARDS

NAPA VALLEY

97  **BALDACCI Brenda's Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Stags Leap District 2018**

   **\$200.00**

To our thinking, a wine's perfection is dependent on when, with what and whom it is enjoyed. That is the reason that there are no 100-point scores to be found in Connoisseurs' Guide, but every so often a wine comes along that stands out head and shoulders above the rest. This is just such a wine which finds its way into rare company, and, from beginning to end, it is among the finest Cabernet Sauvignons we have encountered over the years. It is as rich and involving as it is substantial and impeccably structured, and there is so much going on that it begs slow and thoughtful contemplation. It admittedly does not come cheap, but it is, in every sense of the words, a surpassingly superb rendition that tireless collectors of top-tier California Cabernets will definitely not want to miss. Enough said.

Reviewed: [April 2022](#)

95  **BALDACCI Ruppert Coombsville Cabernet Sauvignon 2018**

   **\$150.00**

An altogether lovely Cabernet Sauvignon that matches richness with an uncanny sense of grace, this delectable offering is long on concentrated, very pure, cassis and black cherry fruit with a touch of sweet, loamy soil and a judicious bit of oak extending its reach, and while ripe, it shows a spot of enlivening brightness all the way through to its terrifically long finish that wards off any sense of heaviness. It is a pretty, yet serious wine that shows more depth and range the longer one stays with it, and, though it is so finely polished that we would not complain if offered a glass now, it is balanced to keep and improve for many years. It is a most instructive reminder that big muscles and tannins are not requisite for lengthy age.

Reviewed: [April 2022](#)

93  **BALDACCI Black Label Cabernet Sauvignon Stags Leap District 2018**

   **\$110.00**

A riveting Cabernet right from the first sniff and striking in its depth and purity, the Baldacci Black Label bottling is a complete, beautifully balanced wine that, while sporting a good deal of fruity muscle and insistent richness, shows the palatal suppleness that marks the finer examples from Napa Valley's Stags Leap District. As any serious, very young Cabernet is wont to be, it is years away from reaching its best, and, if admittedly a satisfying wine of enormous appeal now, it warrants cellaring for six to ten years and is an odds-on bet to be nothing less than gorgeous some fifteen or more hence.

Reviewed: [April 2022](#)

91  **BALDACCI Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville 2018**

   **\$110.00**

For its full-volume aromas to its deep, dark fruit flavors, this is a well-stuffed, fully ripe Cabernet that exhibits great richness and fruity scale, but it also sports a wealth of grippy young tannins that, together with a noticeable streak of late-arriving heat, move it well out of the ranks of those that might be called elegant. Mind that it is deep and generously filled and its youthful indiscretions will become far less evident with age, but, as the Baldacci bunch goes, it is not quite as polished, and its strength lies in richness rather than finesse.

Reviewed: [April 2022](#)