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Luxury Cabernet Sauvignons From Napa Valley

Tom Hyland Contributor ☉

I write about wine (and sometimes food) from around the world.

Some things are difficult to argue, like Albert Einstein being a genius or Tom Brady being a pretty good football player. Additionally, not many would argue Napa Valley as being a nice place to grow Cabernet Sauvignon. This has been true for more than a century and today, there are a few dozen examples of this wine type that can truly be called classic.

Given the demand for these wines and the limited production - many of these wines are from a single vineyard or a specific plot within a vineyard - the prices are often as high as \$250 or \$300 a bottle. That might be a bit much for the average consumer, but there are countless collectors and aficionados that purchase as many bottles as they can. And how enjoyable is it to drink these wines after laying them away in a cellar for 10, 20, 30 years or even longer? The aging potential justifies the prices, making these wines true luxury items.

Here are notes on a few of the finest current releases of luxury Cabernet Sauvignons from Napa Valley:

Baldacci Cabernet Sauvignon “Brenda’s Vineyard” 2019 (Stags Leap District, Napa Valley) - Named for the mother of proprietor Michael Baldacci, this is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Bright, intense ruby red; aromas of black licorice, black cherry, blackberry and hints of fig and caramel. Medium-full with excellent concentration. Impressive ripeness, beautiful varietal purity; rich, sleek, medium-full tannins and notable persistence. This has beautiful Stags Leap District style, charm and finesse. Beautifully balanced, this is approachable tonight, but this will clearly improve over the next decade; peak in 15-18 years. **(94)**