



Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

2019

Wine Advocate

“A blend of 95% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Petit Verdot, the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is another wonderfully evocative triumph from this family-owned Pritchard Hill pioneer. Deep garnet-purple colored, it storms out of the glass with profound scents of crème de cassis, blackberry preserves, licorice and mulberries, plus hints of unsmoked cigars, wild sage and tar. The medium to full-bodied palate delivers fantastic intensity and great poise, offering fine-grained, ripe tannins and bold freshness, finishing long and mineral laced.” **99 Points: Classic; a great wine**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, November 2021

JamesSuckling.com

“Top 100 Wines of the USA”

42. 2019 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Blackberries, blueberries, black licorice, ink and flowers on the nose. Tar, too. Full-bodied with plush, integrated tannins that are intertwined to pure velvet. The finish goes on and on. Wonderful balance and harmony. 2022 release. So excellent to drink now, but will be even better in 2023 and onwards.” **98 Points: A must-buy**

-James Suckling, December 2021

JamesSuckling.com

“James had a preview into the greatness of the 2019 Napa Valley vintage, which appears to have produced reds with a little more depth and intensity than the super-balanced 2018. A Zoom interview with Cyril Chappellet and winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus to taste their top reds from the vintage revealed the greatness of the year. The **2019 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon is one of their best ever and shows superb depth, firmness and great length.**”

-James Suckling, October 2021

2018

Wine Advocate

“The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is composed of 90% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Petit Verdot. It was aged in 100% new French oak for 22 months. The alcohol weighed in at 14.5%. Deep garnet-purple in color, it charges out of the gate with bold expressions of warm cassis, wild blueberries and black raspberries, plus hints of chocolate box, menthol, tapenade, smoked meats and pencil lead. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is bursting with vibrant black fruits, framed by fantastically ripe, fine-grained tannins and lovely freshness, finishing long and mineral laced. Drink Date: 2022 – 2052.” **98+ Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character**

displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, November 2020

JebDunnuck.com

“Napa Valley 2018 – A Great Vintage”

“The wines show a beautiful sense of freshness and purity, and at times can have an almost Bordeaux-like character in their tannins, acids, and textures.

2018 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Always one of the top wines in a vintage, the 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is another **gorgeous wine** with a more plush, supple texture that hides solid underlying structure and tannins. Beautiful notes of blueberries, new leather, camphor, violets, and smoked tobacco all flow to a full-bodied, seamless, gorgeously textured beauty that's very much in the style of the vintage. Possessing remarkable purity, flawless balance, and building tannins, give bottles 4-5 years of bottle age, count yourself lucky, and enjoy over the following 25+ years.” **98 Points: As good as it gets. These wines reach the peak of my personal scale of quality.**

-Jeb Dunnuck, January 2021

JamesSuckling.com

“Top 100 Wines of the USA”

“Blackberries, blueberries, black licorice, ink and flowers on the nose. Tar, too. Full-bodied with plush, integrated tannins that are intertwined to pure velvet. The finish goes on and on. **Wonderful balance and harmony.** 2022 release. So excellent to drink now, but will be even better in 2023 and onwards.” **98 Points: A must buy**

-James Suckling, December 2021

The Tasting Panel

“Publisher’s Picks Extra: Red Carpet Treatment”

“A silk road ascends to a dynamic peak, where a hallelujah of flavor and texture rings out. The juiciness of this tamed beast shows through its opaque black fruit. A savory middle carries tar, tobacco, and Worcestershire notes. **A triumphant red.**” **97 Points: Classic**

-Meridith May, July/August 2021

The SOMM Journal

“A silk road ascends to a dynamic peak, where a hallelujah of flavor and texture rings out. The juiciness of this tamed beast shows through its opaque black fruit. A savory middle carries tar, tobacco, and Worcestershire notes. **A triumphant red.**” **97 Points: Classic**

-Meridith May, August/September

Vinous

“Napa Valley’s Thrilling 2018s & 2019s”

Napa Valley experienced two stunning back-to-back vintages in 2018 and 2019 the likes of which I have never seen. Both vintages produced a bevy of breathtaking wines that will thrill Napa Valley fans. The 2018s are refined and vibrant.

Chappellet

The 2018s are impressive across the board. Winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus favors a style that melds textural fruit opulence with mountain structure.

2018 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is bright, punchy and structured. Blackberry jam, grilled herbs, lavender, menthol and crushed rocks all come alive in the glass. This searingly tannic, mountain Cabernet needs a good deal of time to open, but when it does, it dazzles. Bright floral notes, blood orange and slightly redder tonalities of fruit develop over time. The Pritchard Hill is a wine for readers who can be patient.” **96+ Points: Exceptional. A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world’s great, iconic wines**

-Antonio Galloni, March 2021

JamesSuckling.com

“Blue fruit with boysenberry and floral aromas. Cassis, too. It’s full-bodied, yet very tight and toned on the palate with fine tannins that are formed and polished. **A classic wine.** Give this three or four years to soften. Best after 2024.” **96 Points: A must buy**

-James Suckling, October 2020

Decanter

“Luczy’s 30: Top Napa Cabernet 2018s”

“Wines are listed by points scored, then alphabetically by producer, and are a cross-section of Matthew Luczy’s **top-scoring, best value and most interesting wines of the vintage.** All wines were tasted in the US, from bottle – some are just being released at the time of going to press, and few 2018s have yet been shipped to the UK.”

2018 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Sourced from the top 15%-20% of Chappellet’s holdings on Pritchard Hill. Aromas of fresh violets, damp herbs and black fruits. Powerful and muscular on the palate, but a lean, toned muscle. Often, the flagship wine of a Napa estate pulls out all the stops with ripeness, but **this bottling is impressively restrained and elegant.** Several other releases from Chappellet also scored in the 90s, so **this is a reliable estate in 2018.**” **95 Points: Outstanding**

-Matthew Luczy, May 2021

Robb Report

“11 Superb New Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons to Drink This Fall”

“Pritchard Hill is one of Napa’s most enviable wine addresses, thanks in large part to the Chappellets. The latest release of their icon-level Pritchard Hill Cabernet is **proof perfect**—opening with a savory-sweet and complex layering of mountain-forest notes, warm underbrush, crushed rock, dark fruit, baking spices, dark chocolate, mint and pipe tobacco. The palate—with the power and depth of a mountain wine—extends that blend, with spiced plum and dark berry flavors carried with vibrant acidity and well-managed tannins that come off as substantial and plush at the same time. Give this one some time in your cellar.”

-Sara Schneider, October 2021

Sunday Telegram

“The Kings of Cabernet: An Impressive List”

“Aromas of blackberry and violets along with vanilla, clove, and dark chocolate. The pronounced fruit flavors and tannins add a sense of structure to the deep, rich flavors of this wine. This **utterly amazing wine** is bold with persistent dark berry and mocha flavors that seem to last forever.”

-Al Vuona, December 2021

Decanter

“Matthew Luczy’s top-scoring 2018 Napa Cabernets” 2018 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

-Matthew Luczy, November 2020

2017

Creators.com

“There are a handful of Napa Valley cabernets that are deserving of iconic status, having demonstrated over decades that they are anything but a fluke of nature. **Pritchard Hill is Chappellet’s contribution to the pantheon of truly great Napa Valley cab.** This is the 20th anniversary for this iconic cab from the iconic 50-year-old winery located off the Silverado Trail along the eastern side of the valley. The 2017 is rich, deep and impressive, with polished tannins despite its muscular structure; dark-fruit notes of blackberry, cassis and blueberry; and remarkable depth and length. **It’s a wine for the ages.” 100 Points**

-Robert Whitley, January 2021

The Tasting Panel

“Publishers Pick”

“This year is a milestone for Chappellet: It’s the 50th anniversary vintage from Pritchard Hill as well as the 20th vintage of Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon. **This wine personifies the beauty of mountain fruit** grown on steep, well-drained, rocky slopes; the low yields exhibit a remarkable concentration of fruit and, no doubt, the ability to age for years to come. With 10% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec blended in, the wine aged 22 months in 100% new French oak. It performs a slow dance, its beauty, elegance, and structure evolving with each sip. The saturation of blue and black fruit and the presence of lilac, mulberry, dates, and spiced sandalwood are inspiring. Deep notes of coffee and chocolate wash over the finish.” **98 Points: Classic**

-Meridith May, January/February 2021

Wine Review Online

“**This bottling is always a personal favorite, and this vintage might be my favorite to date.** It has an approachability factor that attracts in a big way, showcasing classic Napa Valley characteristics of blackberry, currants, pencil shavings, mild dried herbs and rich spice in layered fashion that makes for a mind-bending glass after a two hour decant. That said, the future holds excellent promise thanks to a supple structure that will soften into elegance over time. **Once again, this is a cellar worthy treasure** -- if you can stand the waiting.” **97 Points**

-Rich Cook, November 2020

Wine Advocate

“Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill comes bounding out of the glass with exuberant black cherries, warm cassis, chocolate pie and blackberry preserves notes plus nuances of wild sage, forest floor and tobacco. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is elegantly played and refreshing with velvety tannins and a long mineral-tinged finish.” **96 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, October 2019

Wine.com

“The 2017 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon speaks of **mountainside excellence**. **This wine summons all of the aristocratic greatness of hillside fruit**. Its aromas and flavors of black fruit, licorice, and oak are nicely intertwined with lilacs and aromatic spices. Pair it with grilled, grass-fed beef with an accent of Vermont sharp cheddar.” **96 Points**

-Wilfred Wong, November 2020

JebDunnuck.com

“The flagship is the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill, and this cuvée just about always **represents the pinnacle of mountain Cabernet Sauvignon from Napa Valley**. The 2017 is 100% estate Cabernet Sauvignon and reveals a deep purple color as well a stunning bouquet of blue fruits, burning embers, dark chocolate, sage brush, and crushed rocks. It's powerful, full-bodied, and concentrated, and the tannins clamp down on the finish enough to warrant hiding this beauty in the cellar for a solid 5-7 years. If drinking today, give it an hour or two in a decanter. **It's another stunning wine from this estate.**” **95+ Points: Outstanding wines. These wines are outstanding for their type and are worth the extra effort to seeking out.**

-Jeb Dunnuck, January 2019

Wine Enthusiast

“From the producer’s mountainous estate, this is blended with 10% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec. It displays the power of elevation, revealing dense layers of sage and black currant highlighted by cedar and graphite. Cellaring is recommended; enjoy from 2027–2032.” **Cellar Selection, 95 Points: Superb; a great achievement**

-Virginie Boone, April 2021

Vinous

“The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is a positively stellar wine in this challenging year. Crème de cassis, licorice, lavender, chocolate, spice and espresso all run through the 2017. This is an especially inky, flamboyant style for Chappellet, but all the elements come together very nicely. 2022 – 2032.” **95 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, January 2020

OwenBargreen.com

“Top 100 of 2020”

“The 2017 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon is a **sensational effort** from this somewhat challenging vintage in the Napa Valley. Right away a whiff of volcanic earth really entices as layers of cocoa powder dusted espresso bean, sweet pipe tobacco and creme de cassis tones all meld together on the bouquet. Once on the mouth, the lively acidity really entices, as layers of dark fruits are woven together with creosote, smoky minerals and shades of menthol. The long finish lingers. **Exceedingly good** even at the three year mark, the gorgeous 2017 ‘Pritchard Hill’ Cabernet Sauvignon has more than a decade of life ahead of it. Be sure to give this beauty at least a one hour decant if enjoying in this nascent phase. Drink 2020-2038” **95 Points**

-Owen Bargreen, December 2020

Wine Spectator Insider Weekly

“A First Look at Our Editors’ Most Exciting New Wines”

“Ripe and well-proportioned, with loads of cassis, plum reduction and melted black licorice notes melding together, picking up graphite and apple wood accents through the muscular but defined finish. A late kick of fruit on the finish is matched by minerally cut. Best from 2023 through 2036.”

94 Points: Outstanding; a wine of superior character and style

-James Molesworth, March 2021

Wine Spectator

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94 Points: Outstanding; a wine of superior character and style

-James Molesworth, November 2021

Lewin on Wine

“Black inky color. Stern nose shows deep black fruits. This is a rich, big wine, with a chocolaty texture that carries its high tannins well. Fruits show as blackberries with hints of blueberries, but aromatics haven’t come out fully yet. Finish is very long with some breadth on the palate. Already it shows a seamless quality that I expect to be reflected in layers of flavor as it develops. Drink 2027-2045.” **94 Points**

-Dr. Benjamin Lewin, July 2021

JamesSuckling.com

“Blueberry, blackberry and blue-slate aromas. Medium body and firm, silky tannins. This is a little tight now, so give it two or three years to soften. Try after 2022.” **93 Points: Outstanding**

-James Suckling, February 2020

IntoWine

“For Chappellet, **Pritchard Hill is their prime grape growing spot.** The fruit pulled from this piece of land has continuously been well-tended, grapes that offer great structure and flavor, even before they are pressed into wine. Comprised mainly of Cabernet, there is 10% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec blended in. The result is a wine that offers dark red fruits like blackberry, boysenberry and black cherry, along with a lightly spicy cracked pepper, subtle herbal and wildflower notes. Tactically, this is seamless and soft. The aging of this for 22 months in all new French oak does exactly what wood is intended to do - provide additional flavor, structure and ageability without overwhelming the fruit. **Certainly this is a wine you might choose to age for a decade or more, and you would be well rewarded. But it’s also a beautifully balanced wine that is ready to drink now.**” **93 Points**

-Michael Cervin, November 2020

Vinography

“Still in the Cabernet department, and one notch higher in price than the already pricey Aperture wines, you’ll find the **Chappellet Pritchard Hill** bottling, which is their flagship Cabernet. It’s as regal and powerful as you would expect for the price...”

2017 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Inky purple in color, this wine smells of blackberry, black cherry, and a touch of struck match. In the mouth, suede-like tannins wrap around a core of black cherry, cocoa powder, and blackberry fruit.

Excellent acidity keeps the mouth-watering, and the tannins, while muscular, are supple and don't flex too hard. Nicely balanced, and built for long-term aging." **Between 9 and 9.5/10 Points**
-Alder Yarrow, December 2020

Wine Advocate

“Chappellet – A Complete 50-Year Retrospective”

“There is almost certainly nothing in the world that so honestly and evocatively records the history of a time, place and custodian/crafter like wine. Having the opportunity to taste the entire vinous history to date of a single-vineyard wine produced by the same family is an experience that surely borders on the spiritual. To celebrate the winery's 50th anniversary, the Chappellet family generously offered such an experience as a collection of charity auction lots for Auction Napa Valley for five couples (ten people in total). When the time came for the recipients of those lots to participate in the tasting, they very generously invited me to document this incredible occasion, which I hasten to add, by nature of the experience, somewhat defies words let alone numbers.

The story behind the **now iconic Chappellet wine label** is one of a tight-knit family of artists, visionaries and dreamers. Donn and Molly Chappellet followed Donn's dream of making wine by checking out of Los Angeles corporate life and heading north to California wine country with their young family. Andre Tchelistcheff—a founding father of modern Napa Valley Cabernet—mentored Donn. Donn was looking for a location where he could produce a 'European' style of Cabernet Sauvignon. It was Tchelistcheff who inspired him to search for land beyond the already busy valley floor and look to the hills, at a time when those in the hills were considered to be, well, hillbillies. In 1966, the sheer beauty of 320 acres of land on Pritchard Hill captured the hearts of Donn, Molly and their children. It was, appropriately, the Summer of Love—1967—that they moved lock, stock and barrel to this remote location and founded Chappellet.

The first vintage from the precocious young vines of the first plantings was 1968. In pursuit of a more 'European' style, it seems rather fitting that a young Englishman, Philip Togni, was Chappellet's first winemaker. Togni was the one winemaker in Chappellet's history thus far who was unable to make it to this tasting. The Chappellet family's present and Togni's contemporary winemakers described his style of winemaking as one that is built for the ages. By all accounts, the wines were so firm and structured in their youth with the fruit tightly wound and bound that they verged on austerity, unable to reveal their true potential for a couple of decades. In 1968, the first official 600 cases were produced and sold at a release price of \$8.50. I was incredibly impressed with how this inaugural vintage was showing now, 50 years on. Beautifully perfumed and satiny smooth, it had none of the hard edges purported in its youth. Just one year later, the 1969 vintage produced a wine that not only would exist even today as one of the greatest Napa Cabernet Sauvignons ever made, but it firmly put the Chappellet family vineyard on the global wine map. Just 400 cases were made in that classic Togni structured style; however, what makes this an extraordinary vintage is that the wine also possesses layer upon layer of ripe, rich, generous fruit. What was it about the 1969 from Chappellet that elevated it to stand heads and shoulders above other Napa Valley wines from that, generally considered, rather ordinary vintage? Apart from the fact that sometimes vineyards provide some of their best fruit in the first few years, the greatness of this wine shows how different a vintage can be up in the hills/mountains above Napa than down on the valley floor.

Philip Togni remained Chappellet's winemaker until 1975, when Joe Cafaro took over. In 1978 Tony Soter took over as winemaker, and then in 1979 Cathy Corison came on board to make the wines until 1986, when current winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus took over. 1989 can be considered a

transition year to start shifting to a flagship wine—the ‘Signature’ label. Only 1,100 cases were made in this transition year. This is also when the Chappellets made the difficult and expensive decision to replant due to virus and problems in some blocks with the AXR1 rootstock (infamous for not being as resistant to phylloxera as it should have been). For a few years, they sold off part of the deselected wine in bulk, and then they started to make the ‘Mountain Cuvee.’ Since 1992, there is a Signature and a Pritchard Hill Estate label, and from 1997, the Pritchard Hill Estate Vineyard became the flagship.

Donn Chappellet passed away in 2016, unquestionably leaving behind an incredible legacy in the realization of his dream and the creation of a new and profound face of Napa Valley Cabernet. Perhaps less well known in wine circles is his wife Molly. To meet her is to immediately understand how none of this could have happened without her. A strong-minded, very talented artist, author and landscaper in her own right, it was Molly who conceived of Chappellet’s visually striking Pyramid winery—based on the architectural creation she most admires. This is also the image behind the label’s logo. Her creative flare for revealing the latent beauty in nature is visible throughout the winery and homestead, particularly the living art that is her home garden. What’s more, the art and dreams of Molly and Donn are clearly reborn in the free-thinking spirits of their children, who continue to enhance and build upon the work that their parents started.

Within the notes attached to this article, I have done my utmost to capture the aromas/flavors, styles, personalities and state of maturity of each of the 50 wines tasted over two days. What was more difficult, if not impossible, to describe was the emotional landscape that the 50 wines, as a collection, paint. Can you smell and taste aspects of people’s lives as they play out on a special piece of land: aromatic compositions that act like snapshots of adventure, hope, devotion, victories, disappointments, occasional heartache and overwhelming joy? While I’m aware that our wine science community would frown at the implausibility of such a suggestion, having had the great opportunity to participate in tastings such as this memorable occasion with the Chappellets a few times in my life, I’m not so sure this is just fanciful thinking.”

2017 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“A barrel sample blended of 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill gives up notions of red currants, black raspberries and baked raspberries with wafts of underbrush, truffles, cassis, pencil shavings, bay leaves and chargrill. Full-bodied and rich with a firm, grainy frame, it has great freshness and a long, earthy finish.” **92-95 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, May 2018

Wine Wanderings

“This was my Best of Tasting. By allocation only (If you are going to join an allocation list, put this also at the top.) This wine spends 22 months in 100% New French oak. The dark chocolate, graphite, and black current aromas and flavors knocked me out. You will want to decant this wine for 30 minutes prior to serving. **Fabulous.**”

-Tricia Conover, October 2021

Vinous

“The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon (Pritchard Hill) is pliant, racy and quite open, with good depth and plenty of raciness. Red cherry jam, mocha, new leather, licorice and coffee flesh out in this attractive, promising Cabernet from Chappellet. This core blend is composed entirely of pre-fire fruit.”

(91-94 Points): Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out

-Antonio Galloni, December 2018

Forbes

“Exploring the Cabernet Sauvignon of Napa Valley, Part Six”

“Here is a selection of 32 wines, from between 2016 and 2018, that exemplify the incredible range of styles and expressions that the region is capable of, even when labeled simply as Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon.

2017 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

So perfumed and lifted, yet with a core of gorgeous ripe berry fruit at its center: Aromas of fresh-cut cedar, violets, mountain berries, cherries, and kirsch show hints of espresso oil and chocolate, and precede a palate of taut structure and propulsive tannins that come in a beam, and carry flavors of cherries, black and purple plums, floral peppercorns, blueberries, boysenberries, chocolate-enrobed black cherries, lavender, and sweet spice. The long finish speaks of maduro tobacco and plum pits, and reinforces the impression of a wine just that the beginning of what will be a long, riveting, and deeply rewarding evolution over the next quarter century and beyond.”

-Brain Freedman, June 2021

Napa Valley Register

“Virtual party at Chappellet: Celebrating the 2017 Pritchard Hill, Superman, and Michelin-starred chefs”

“Foundational to the event was the celebration of the **2017 Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon**, a vintage that marks this wine’s 20th anniversary, and 50 years since Molly and Donn Chappellet founded the Chappellet winery.

The 2017 Pritchard Hill Cab fit in perfectly at the star-studded event: rich and complex, with layers of toast, herbs and spice wrapped around a core of deep black and red fruits.”

The Capital Gazette

“Can a \$200 bottle of wine be a bargain? These eight are proof.”

“If history was a factor in ranking top wines, there are only a handful of Napa Valley producers who were around in the late 19th century. Among them are Chateau Montelena, Beaulieu Vineyards, **Chappellet**, Spottswoode, Charles Krug, Beringer, Freemark Abbey and Inglenook. But over time these wineries have changed ownership and, in some cases, aren’t making first-growth-quality wines today.

Any answer is steeped in bias, of course. And, there are many more than five top producers who should make the cut. However, you would have to include Chateau Montelena, Caymus, Joseph Phelps, **Chappellet** and Heitz among **the cabernet producers who have been around a long time and still making legendary wines.**

Here are a few **legendary cabernet sauvignons** we have recently tasted that would make special holiday gifts for special people or yourself:

2017 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

The more complex and long-lived cabernets come from mountain-grown grapes. **This gem from the esteemed Pritchard Hill sets the bar high.** Layers of blue and dark fruit, licorice and herbal aromas linger alongside the concentrated ripe black cherry flavors and long finish. Not surprisingly, it earns the highest scores by wine critics.”

-Tom Marquardt and Patrick Darr, December 2020

2016

Wine Advocate

“The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill has a very deep garnet-purple color. To smell the nose is like hearing angels trumpeting at the pearly gates! The most incredible and evocative scents come spilling out of the glass, conjuring notions of freshly crushed black raspberries, wild blueberries, red and black currant compote and raspberry leaves with subtler hints of roses, violets, tilled soil, cigar box and fragrant earth. Medium to full-bodied and achingly graceful in the mouth, the perfumed black and red fruits seemingly dance on the palate with a very firm yet beautifully fine-grained texture and just the right amount of freshness, finishing with epic persistence. Hallelujah—this is perfection!!” **100 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, October 2018

JebDunnuck.com

“Cut from the same cloth with the intensity turned all the way up, but with no loss of purity or elegance, the heavenly 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon is a worthy follow up to the otherworldly 2015. Awesome notes of crème de cassis, gamey blueberries, sappy underbrush/mountain scrub brush, flowery incense and crushed rocks all literally soar from the glass of this full-bodied beauty. Hitting the palate with awesome intensity and depth, it stays magically weightless and seamless, with both structure and considerable opulence. Don't miss this wine. I followed this wine for multiple days and it never budged an inch with regard to evolution and oxidation. It's going to keep for 3-4 decades.” **100 Points: As good as it gets. These wines reach the peak of my personal scale of quality.**

-Jeb Dunnuck, January 2019

Wine Advocate

“Chappellet – A Complete 50-Year Retrospective”

“A barrel sample blended of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Petit Verdot and 3% Malbec, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is deep garnet-purple colored with a gloriously pure and intense nose of crushed wild blueberries and black currants plus hints of roses, violets, spice box and charcuterie with wafts of cigar box and pencil lead. Very big and rich, with the full body offering voluptuous blue and black fruits, it's accented by loads of spices, finishing long and savory.”

97 – 100 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume.

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, May 2018

The Tasting Panel

“Dark, smooth, and toasty with a silky texture; ripe and fresh with no heaviness. Intense and complex but also elegant and layered, this is what a great Napa winery can achieve in a great year.”

98 Points: Classic

-Andy Dias Blue, August 2019

Vinous

“Napa Valley’s Extraordinary 2016 Cabernet Sauvignons”

“This range of new releases from Chappellet shows off the 2016 vintage to great effect. The wines are nuanced, open-knit and spectacularly delicious.”

2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Just as it was from barrel, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is magnificent. Powerful and explosive on the palate, the 2016 simply has it all. The interplay of fruit density, power and vibrancy is simply dazzling. Raspberry jam, mocha, wild flowers, mint and cedar open up in the glass, but it is the wine's textural brilliance, stature and vibrancy that leave the deepest impression. Time in the glass brings out a more floral and red-toned character to round things out in style.” **97 Points: A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world’s great, iconic wines.**

-Antonio Galloni, December 2018

Forbes.com

“For decades, Chappellet’s Pritchard Hill has been revered by insiders and their devoted followers.

2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Lisa Perrotti-Brown spoke about the 2016 vintage being great in terms of ‘consistency and quality’ and that she loved the ‘brightness’ of the fruit. She continued by stating that during 2016 ‘the great vineyards of Napa Valley shine like beacons and this [Chappellet’s Pritchard Hill] was one of them.’ This wine did have a remarkable balance between lots of layers of pristine fruit and an intense energy that was lifted by a floral note – a wine that was accessible and delicious with silky tannins and lush fruit yet was ethereal in its aromatic charm and bright acidity.”

-Cathrine Todd, August 2020

Vinous

“I tasted a wide range of wines with Molly and Cyril Chappellet and their longtime winemaker, Phillip Corallo-Titus. Chappellet’s Cabernet Sauvignon Signature remains one of the best values in Napa Valley, while the flagship Pritchard Hill bottling has gained in refinement in recent years.”

2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is laced with the essence of black cherry, plum, licorice, lavender and cloves. Tasted next to the 2015, the 2016 shows darker tonalities of fruit and a level of textural unctuousness that is impossible to miss. Soft, silky and polished, the 2016 is quite harmonious for a young Chappellet Cabernet.” **94-97 Points: Exceptional. A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world’s great, iconic wines**

-Antonio Galloni, January 2018

JamesSuckling.com

“This is so plush and refined with a beautiful core of fruit and brightness. Full-bodied, round and juicy. Chocolate, spices and solid yet polished tannins. A pretty barrel sample suggesting excellence.”

96-97 Points: A must buy

-James Suckling, May 2018

Wine Review Online

“The flagship wine of a truly outstanding portfolio, and one worthy of the title. This vintage shows an elegant rusticity that will unfold over time, whether in your current glass taken slowly or in a glass far down the calendar line. Deep blackberry, cassis, mocha and cigar aromas lead to a dense palate, where firm tannic structure carries the elements and hints of spice join in the dance, lingering shyly now, and intensifying with air time. A serious cellar trophy wine. Contains 14% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec.” **96 Points**

-Rich Cook, October 2018

JamesSuckling.com

“2016: Napa’s Fifth Consecutive Outstanding Vintage”

“Napa Valley is releasing another outstanding vintage for reds with the 2016, making it the fifth top year in a row for the Sunshine State.”

2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Very rich, ripe, sweetly fruited cabernet with an intense array of boysenberry, blueberry and blackcurrant aromas, as well as violet-like florals. The palate has a plush, seamless and cleverly articulated array of ripe, long, detailed and very concentrated blackcurrants. This is impressive.”

95 Points: A must buy

-James Suckling, November 2018

Forbes

“Wines Of The Week: A Napa Cabernet For The Ages”

“If I can’t stock my cellar with massive bottles of Screaming Eagle--and how I wish I could!--what else could I drink instead? The answer was right in front of me: Several weeks ago, I attended an absolutely incredible tasting of Cabernet Sauvignons from also-cult-worthy **Chappellet Pritchard Hill**.

Now, bottles of this nearly-five-decade-old wine are virtually impossible to come by, but recent vintages are deeply rewarding, too. Which is why the **2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon** is my red Wine of the Week. For while it hasn’t yet developed those mind-boggling secondary and tertiary bottle-age notes like its Nixon-era counterpart, the potential is there, and in abundance.

Sourced from Chappellet’s Pritchard Hill mountain vineyard, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon starts with notable richness on the nose, even this early in its certain to be decades-long lifespan, with chocolate, scorched earth, cassis, and suggestions of blueberry, all laying the foundations for a brilliantly structured palate bursting with black cherries, currants, and sweet spice, lifted with flashes of mint and violets that vibrate through the long finish. **It’s a haunting wine, a gorgeous evocation of one of the top vineyards in the world for Cabernet, and a bottle that promises decades of pleasure to come.**

2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

The rich yet detailed nose immediately indicates that this is **a wine of immense pleasure and potential**, with cassis and a touch of blueberry joined by plum, chocolate, grilled sage, and scorched

earth: The balance between fruit and more savory aspects here is otherworldly. These lay the foundation for a palate of impressive generosity and structure, with a beautiful minty lift to flavors of black cherry and currant, sweet spice, and violets that ride through the long finish. It's rare to find a wine with so many decades in front of it that is this **memorable** so early. **Beyond stunning.**

Chappellet Pritchard Hill is the source of some of **the finest Cabernet Sauvignon in the world**, and the 2016 will likely be remembered as **among their greatest bottlings.**"

-Brian Freedman, January 2019

Sips with Spencer on ABC 7

"I am not exaggerating, this tastes like Château Latour."

-Spencer Christian, October 2019

Food & Wine

"25 Splurge-Worthy California Reds"

"These 25 reds represent what I consider to be **some of the most splurge-worthy in the state—and, for many of them, the world.** All of them are worth the effort to look for.

So, explore the category of splurge-worthy reds as widely as possible, at least as far as your budget allows. They are as exciting and varied as I can ever recall. Here 25 of my favorites.

2016 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

As with so many previous vintages of this wine, the 2016 will stand the test of time and age for decades. A licorice-seamed nose of mixed currants and cherries paves the way for a palate that's plenty generous already—boysenberries, blueberries, plums, sweet spice, and flowers."

-Brian Freedman, November 2016

Worcester Telegram & Gazette

"Now **this is a textbook example of what a marvelous California Cabernet should be. The Chappellet 'Pritchard Hill' is a wine that every Cabernet lover yearns for.** Deep violet in color with amazing aromas of blueberry, blackberry and chocolate mocha. Ripe flavors of cherry and dark fruit tantalize the palate with wonderful symmetry. The long, persistent finish is accented by toasty oak. **This wine is simply exquisite.**"

-Al Vuona, December 2019

Global Traveler

"Chappellet celebrates 50 years of its acclaimed Napa wines."

"Fifty years ago, Molly and Donn Chappellet left their life in swanky Beverly Hills and moved their family to a rugged, 320-acre mountainside in Napa Valley called Pritchard Hill. Donn's goal: to make fine wine that would echo some of the world's top growths.

Throughout the years while the Chappellets produced a number of other excellent varietal wines, the highest-quality has always been Pritchard Hill Estate Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, made from mountainside-grown grapes. And throughout those years, it has proven to be outstanding and long-lived, one of Napa's and, possibly, one of the world's finest Cabernet Sauvignon-based wines.

To celebrate its 50th, Chappellet held a tasting that featured 10 vintages of its Pritchard Hill Cabernets.

We began with the **2016**, deep, dark-shaded and with an aroma of rich, ripe berry followed by a taste that is toasty with spicy notes and a long, delicious finish.

Next came **2012**, also deep and dark in color. Four years older and more evolved, it features a smooth, silky taste and an overall lovely melding of berry flavors.

We moved to **2007**: deep-shaded, lightly toasty, smooth, mouth-filling, with aromas and tastes suggesting a mix of berries; well-structured and rich.

The **2004** was especially focused, concentrated and big, a mouth-filling wine of depth.

We moved to **1997**: big, complex and full-bodied with a depth of flavors, and then to **1992**, which I found complex and spicy although slightly less right than later Pritchard Hills.

The color of the **1987** is still deep and dark. The taste still shows richness and spice, with an interesting complexity in the flavors and balance. On to the **1980**: firm, complex, with depth of flavors; delicious, fascinating.

The **1975** still displays a sturdy acidity along with a ripeness and just a hint of age; and finally, the **1969**, which at 50 years of age still shows remarkable vigor and depth.”

-Eunice Fried, March 2019

The Colorado Springs Gazette

“Giving the gift of fine wine”

“Now’s the time to find an exceptional wine to give the wine aficionado in your life. I’m here to recommend several exciting California cabernet sauvignons and merlots to help you decide; each will say you cared enough to select something special.

2014 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Chappellet Vineyard has been producing highly prized wines since 1967, and its flagship Pritchard Hill has become one of Napa’s iconic cabernets. The most expensive wine here, it is without question amazing. Everything about this mountain-grown wine is large scaled, with richness and complexity throughout. It has the structure composition to evolve and drink well for at least 20 years.”

-Rich Mauro, December 2018

2015

JebDunnuck.com

“Napa Valley: Napa’s Exuberant, Powerful 2015s”

“Also inky colored, the 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill comes from the estate vineyard on Pritchard Hill and spent 22 months in new French oak. It has a similar level of purity, as well as incredible minerality, to go with notes of crème de cassis, scorched earth, crushed rock, and graphite. Reminiscent of licking a rock with its insane level of minerality, this full-bodied beauty is tight and closed on the palate, yet is just loaded with potential. It’s only for those with cold cellars and needs forgotten for 7-8 years, but will keep for 4-5 decades. Bravo!” **100 Points: As good as it gets. These wines reach the peak of my personal scale of quality.**

-Jeb Dunnuck, December 2017

Fort Bend Focus Magazine

“One of the Great Pioneers in Napa Valley”

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon – 100 Points

-Denman Moody, April 2019

Vinous

“The Chappellets were the early pioneers of Pritchard Hill and remain one of the leading families in Napa Valley. This is a superb set of new releases. The Pritchard Hill Cabernet remains the estate's top wine.”

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“A deep, unctuous wine, the 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill captures the essence of the year in its imposing, concentrated personality. Crème de cassis, graphite, gravel, smoke, spice, cloves and lavender infuse this inky, layered, rich Cabernet Sauvignon. Even with all of its intensity, the 2015 is never heavy or overdone, rather it has all the potential to develop into one of the wines of the vintage. The interplay of huge fruit and imposing tannins offers plenty of intrigue.”

95-98 Points: Exceptional. A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world's great, iconic wines

-Antonio Galloni, December 2016

Wine Advocate

“A Complete 50-Year Retrospective”

“A blend of 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Petit Verdot and 8% Malbec, the deep garnet-purple colored 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill has gone a little reticent at this stage, offering quiet notions of blackberry pie and blueberry tart with sparks of dried herbs, earth and savory/meaty suggestions. Full-bodied, rich and concentrated with a built-like-a-brick-house structure framing the massive fruit, it finishes long with exotic spices coming through.” **97 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, May 2018

Wine Advocate

“Opaque purple-black in color, the intensely scented 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is already strutting its stuff, revealing gregarious crème de cassis, baked plums and blackberry preserves notes over notions of cigar box, new leather, charcuterie and tar, plus menthol and sautéed herbs wafts. Full-bodied, concentrated and expressive in the mouth, it features firm, finely grained tannins and plenty of freshness framing the generous fruit, finishing on a lingering herbal note. 2017 – 2037.” **97 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, October 2017

Wine Review Online

“Another stunner from one of Napa's famed sites. This vintage is a touch more refined than the last, with seductively supple tannin structure and refined, well integrated oak influence complementing the expected powerful varietal fruit aromas and flavors that show just the right amount of restraint and finish long and full. Winemaker Philip Titus has quite a string going here!” **97 Points**

-Rich Cook, August 2019

Vinous

“The 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is dense, powerful and voluptuous in the glass, and yet it very much retains a classic sense of structure that is one of the signatures of Chappellet wines. Dark red-toned fruit, licorice, smoke, dark spice and dried flowers all meld together. Sumptuous and forward, with terrific depth, the 2015 has a lot to offer. The 100% new French oak is beautifully integrated, even at this early stage. A year ago, the 2015 was hugely tannic. Since then, the tannins have softened and the 2015 has developed into a much more elegant wine. 2023 – 2040.”

96+ Points: Exceptional. A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world’s great, iconic wines

-Antonio Galloni, January 2018

JamesSuckling.com

“Blackcurrants and black olives with hints of currants and basil. Hints of rosemary and lavender. This is linear and bright with a racy line of tannins running down the center. Structured and bright. A real beauty. Needs three or four years to soften. Classic cabernet.” **96 Points: A must buy**

-James Suckling, May 2018

Vinography

“Next I've got the flagship bottling from **Chappellet** up on Pritchard Hill. They label one wine with Pritchard Hill every year, and it's their finest Cabernet, and hard to argue with on that count. Powerful, broad-shouldered, smooth and supple, this is what most people are looking for when they think Napa Cab.”

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Inky garnet in the glass, this wine smells of black cherry and cassis and a hint of woodsmoke. In the mouth, smoky flavors of cherry and cassis mix with espresso and licorice under a fleecy blanket of tannins. Good acidity and a faint hint of violets make for a long and sustained expression across the palate. Powerful and deep, with a rumbling earthy bass note and well integrated wood.”

Between 9 and 9.5 Points out of 10

-Alder Yarrow, November 2019

Wine Enthusiast

“This is a powerfully concentrated and constructed wine, with 14% Petit Verdot and 8% Malbec. Dark, inky and reductive, it offers waves of tar, leather and toasted oak within sinewy tannins. Chewy black fruit is structured around wild elements of cedar, dried herb and sage, with lingering notes of clove. This is one to let settle; enjoy best from 2025–2030.” **95 Points, Cellar Selection:**

Superb; a great achievement

-Virginie Boone, December 2019

Wine Spectator

“Napa: A Concentration of Excellence”

“Top 50 Napa Producers”

“Here, we've selected 50 **standouts**, along with recent releases that represent their **ongoing track records for excellence**. Particularly among the Cabernet producers, many wineries make multiple cuvees, from valley wide blends to single-vineyard expressions, so while this list is a starting point, greater exploration will bear additional reward.”

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon – 94 Points

-Kim Marcus, June 2020

Wine Spectator

“James Molesworth’s Recommended California Cabernets”

“Bold blueberry, plum and boysenberry fruit flavors give this an overt profile, with warm anise, fruitcake and chocolate notes pouring in alongside the fruit through the finish. There’s a buried graphite edge for support, lengthening this out. A big red. Drink now through 2032.” **94 Points: Outstanding; a wine of superior character and style**

-James Molesworth, November 2019

Wine Spectator Insider

“A first look at our editors’ most exciting new wines”

“Burgundy’s Domaine Leflaive, founded in 1905, converted to biodynamic farming in 1998 under the direction of AnneClaude Leflaive. After her death in 2015, her nephew Brice de la Morandière was appointed managing director. Domaine Leflaive owns some of the best sites in Puligny-Montrachet. In 2016, the domaine made an impressive range of premiers and grands crus that are focused and intense. Here’s a collection of Bruce Sanderson’s reviews. Also in this edition: big-name Napa Cabernet, structured Washington Syrahs, and six exciting Hot Wines.”

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon – 94 Points: Outstanding; a wine of superior character and style

“Bold blueberry, plum and boysenberry fruit flavors give this an overt profile, with warm anise, fruitcake and chocolate notes pouring in alongside the fruit through the finish. There’s a buried graphite edge for support, lengthening this out. A big red. Drink now through 2032.” – James Molesworth

-Marvin Shanken, May 2019

Decanter

“Napa Valley Cabernet 10 Years Apart”

“The American embassy in London hosted a tasting of Napa Cabernets organized by the Napa Valley Vintners. The 14 wineries invited to pour their wines brought two vintages ten years apart. There was no program behind the event, but it did give tasters an opportunity to monitor the evolution of wines from top producers.

These were all good vintages so quality was, or should have been, consistently high. Indeed, the wines ranged from very good to superb, as one would hope for given that they ranged in price from around £100 to £500.

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“The dense black-fruited character of this powerful wine may well be derived from the high proportion of Petit Verdot. The nose is opulent but still reserved and almost tarry from the new oak.” **92 Points: Highly recommended**

-Stephen Brook, October 2019

JancisRobinson.com

“Very deep ruby. Sweet blueberry fruit with lashings of oak on the nose. Plush and sweet on the palate. Very modern – the fruit at the core is concentrated, intense and pure. The oak builds a strong clove note that is a little numbing on the back end at this stage, but the long finish shows a promising future ahead.” **17 Points: Superior**

-Tom Parker, November 2019

Robb Report

“The 10 Best Wines to Pair With Steak”

“The bottle you pour better be stellar to maximize the pleasure in the pairing, so we’ve got a lineup that delivers. We’ve stuck to the Bordeaux family—Cabernet, Merlot, etc., and blends of the same—not because these are the only great wines with beef. But across the classic cuts of steak, they offer consistent, complementary deliciousness.

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Probably the most sought-after of Chappellet’s wines, this Pritchard Hill Cab is one for a well-charred rib-eye. It has pure balance between power and elegance, but there’s no hiding the mountain tannin structure backing juicy blackberry fruit layered with tobacco, espresso, crushed herbs, licorice, and warm baking spices.”

-Sara Schneider, January 2020

The Colorado Springs Gazette

“Napa cab has gone from strength to strength — from winning the famous Paris tasting in 1976 to becoming **one of the most prestigious wines in the world.**

...the wines below deliver the expected Napa Valley style and quality. My favorites displayed firm backbone and vigor, with mature fruit and classic herbal qualities resulting in a whole that coheres all of its parts.

2015 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

From a winery that has been producing highly prized Napa Valley wines since 1967.

Pritchard Hill is its flagship and **one of Napa’s iconic cabernets.** Everything about this mountain-grown wine is large scaled, with concentrated fruit, richness and complexity.”

-Rich Mauro, March 2020

2014

Wine Advocate

“Chappellet – A Complete 50-Year Retrospective”

“Made up of 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is deep garnet-purple in color with an incredibly youthful, primary fruited nose of crushed blackcurrants, blackberries and plums with touches of chocolate box, espresso, cinnamon stick, cloves and menthol. It's a big, blockbuster, rich style with the full-bodied palate sporting tons of black and blue fruits, structured with a solid frame of ripe, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long.” **99 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, May 2018

JamesSuckling.com

“Top 100 Napa and Sonoma Wines of 2017”

#34 – 2014 Chappellet Prichard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“This shows great structure and muscle with a firm and flexing tone. Full-bodied, tight and reserved. Currants, black truffles and espresso. A classic structure that harks back to the great Chappellets of the 1970s. Savory. What length. Will improve with many years, but it's still a dream to drink now.”

98 Points: A must buy

-James Suckling, January 2018

Wine Advocate

“The flagship wine, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill, 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec, is **a stunner and one of the great, great 2014s**. Inky purple with blueberry and blackberry fruit, cassis, licorice, graphite and white flowers, the wine is stunningly concentrated, full-bodied and seemingly one of the greatest of the 2014s. Still youthful, with at least 25-30 years of upside potential at the minimum, this is a wine for patient connoisseurs. Anticipated maturity: 2023-2050.” **99 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Robert Parker, December 2016

Vinous

“The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is every bit as **magnificent** today as it was last year from barrel. Inky, concentrated and regal in its pedigree, the 2014 is all class. The 2014 is not as bombastic or huge as the 2013. Instead, it is a wine of **total finesse and elegance**. The purity of the fruit is simply striking. This is a mesmerizing, utterly compelling wine from the Chappellet family.” **97 Points: Exceptional. A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world’s great, iconic wines**

-Antonio Galloni, December 2016

Vinous

“Quality is on the rise at Chappellet, **one of the most historic wineries in Napa Valley**. Winemaker Philip Corallo-Titus credits new state of the art optical sorting equipment for much of the upswing in quality. Corallo-Titus adds that the recently built new winery also allows him to keep temperatures low during aging and therefore use less SO₂. There is no question **the newer wines at Chappellet are terrific.**”

2014 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill might turn out to be better than the 2013, as it has a bit more focus, delineation and energy. Although it is quite early, the 2014 offers superb potential. The flavors are intensely mineral and savory today, while the wine possesses magical translucence and tons of personality. The sample I tasted was 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, but the final wine may include blenders. Winemaker Philip Corallo-Titus adds that 2014 is a low tannin vintage at Chappellet, so the wines spent a bit longer than normal on the skins.” **94-97 Points: A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world’s great, iconic wines**

-Antonio Galloni, October 2015

WineSpeed

“Overachievers”

“Chappellet’s PH cabernets always have a dark, sexy personality. They’re majestic wines, tight and even angular when young, but always hugely expressive and delicious.” **95 Points**

-Karen MacNeil, October 2018

Wine Enthusiast

“From the producer’s site which is situated at 1,800-feet in elevation, this is a beautifully put together wine, blended with 14% Petit Verdot and 5% Malbec. It serves to celebrate the soil, exuding strong elements of sage, earth, graphite and crushed rock. Amidst the terroir is a richness of

blackberry, clove and chocolate. Full bodied, it retains structure and grace.” **95 Points: Superb; a great achievement**

-Virginie Boone, December 2018

Food & Wine

“10 Cabernet Sauvignons From Napa Valley That Challenge the ‘Reds from California’ Stereotype”

“The magic of California in general, and Napa in particular, it seems, is its tremendous range of terroirs and the increasing number of producers who are working so hard to express their little patch of the planet through the wine in the bottles they produce. Here are 10 varietally labeled Cabernet Sauvignons from Napa Valley, listed alphabetically, that are doing it particularly well, and in a broad range of styles.

2014 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Aromas of freshly laid tar mingle with wild mushrooms, fresh spearmint, and currants, turning to a palate of sweet cherry, scorched earth, and cinnamon stick, all vibrating with gorgeously calibrated acidity. I love the jasmine and rooibos notes on the finish.”

-Brian Freedman, October 2018

Forbes.com

“Valentine’s Day Gift Guide: The 10 Best Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons For Lovers”

“Powerful—fresh picked dark fruit mingles with savory notes of dried herbs, olive tapenade, and smoke, all with an underpinning minerality, full-bodied and gorgeous.”

-Michelle Williams, February 2019

Houston Lifestyles & Homes

“Chappellet’s 50th Anniversary: Raising A Glass To A Wine Pioneer”

“Pritchard Hill is now one of the most famous vineyard-designated wine spots in the world for the production of Cabernet Sauvignon, with world-class neighbors such as Colgin and Continuum attesting to that fact. But the pioneers were the Chappellets.

When Phillip Corallo-Titus became winemaker in 1990, the tide began to turn slowly toward more ripe fruit and tender tannins, so that today, the wines still have a fabulous future, but are drinkable at release.

The current winery offerings from Chappellet are all outstanding.”

2014 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“This wine has many descriptive words from different wine writers, but none seem to be the same. The wine has unbelievable persistence and the panoply of layers of flavors are stunning; thus, in this subjective adventure of tasting this great wine, different fruits, flowers, herbs etc. abound for different palates. Some descriptors are crème de cassis, blackberry, decadent, voluptuous, sweet tobacco, vanilla, clove and perfect kiss of oak. Add a powerful but smooth and long, satisfying finish. A perfect 100.”

-Denman Moody, March 2018

Bullz-Eye

“15 wine gift ideas for any budget”

“Napa Valley’s Chappellet has been a family winery in Napa Valley for more than 50 years now. Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon is the **most iconic wine** in their lineup, and the 2014 vintage

continues to burnish that image. There is a depth, purity and structure that come with mountain-grown fruit that isn't replicable in any other manner. Those elements are here in droves. Blackberry and black cherry are evident on the nose along with some spice notes. Leather, chocolate, wisps of vanilla and an avalanche of dark fruit drives the full-flavored palate. Minerals and earth dominate the impossibly long finish. Napa Valley has a lot of terrific Cabernet Sauvignon, and **Pritchard Hill is among the very best.**"

-Gabe Sasso, December 2018

The Colorado Springs Gazette

"Giving the gift of fine wine"

"Now's the time to find an exceptional wine to give the wine aficionado in your life. I'm here to recommend several exciting California cabernet sauvignons and merlots to help you decide; each will say you cared enough to select something special.

2014 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

Chappellet Vineyard has been **producing highly prized wines since 1967**, and its flagship Pritchard Hill has become one of Napa's iconic cabernets. The most expensive wine here, it **is without question amazing**. Everything about this mountain-grown wine is large scaled, with richness and complexity throughout. It has the structure composition to evolve and drink well for at least 20 years."

-Rich Mauro, December 2018

2013

Wine Advocate

"Chappellet – A Complete 50-Year Retrospective"

"8% Malbec, 6% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill gives gregarious crème de cassis, baked blackberries, black cherry compote and mocha notes with touches of camphor, star anise, violets and oolong tea. Full-bodied and packing a rock-solid frame of grainy tannins, with great freshness supporting the powerful, muscular fruit, it finishes very, very long. This should live forever." **99 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, May 2018

Wine Advocate

"Inky bluish/purple with a stunning nose of white flowers, crushed rock, blueberry, black raspberry and cassis, this is a great, great effort in this vintage, which is not that surprising, but this youthful wine still seems in its infancy and certainly has huge upside to it. It's very deep and full-bodied, but still coiled very tight and restrained, this should turn out to be a tour de force and a great offering in 2013. Don't touch it for another 5-7 years. 2016-2023" **98+ Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Robert Parker, December 2015

Creators

“The Top 40”

“I have checked the records and recorded my 40 most highly rated wines of 2017. These wines are the cream of the crop, the wines that I found most inspiring and profound, each with a numerical rating of 96 points or greater. Wines are chosen for review because they represent outstanding quality or value, and the scores are simply a measure of this reviewer's enthusiasm for the recommended wine.”

Chappellet

“The beautiful cabs of Chappellet helped launch the careers of storied winemakers Tony Soter and Cathy Corison. Phillip Corallo-Titus has been the winemaker since 1990. And that brings us to the latest release of Chappellet's Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon from the 2014 vintage. It is a monumental wine from the winery I have long thought to be the cradle of cabernet sauvignon in the Napa Valley. Years ago, when I turned the attention of my wine collection from Bordeaux to Napa Valley cabernet, Chappellet was at the top of my list. Chappellet cabernet reminded me of my favorite Bordeaux, the first-growth Chateau Haut-Brion, which had the ability to age magnificently. If the Napa Valley were to have a classification, I have no doubt Pritchard Hill would be assigned first-growth status. If the price gives you pause, consider that this is a collector's wine in a league with top-notch Bordeaux that would cost three to five times more. It is a special wine that deserves a special price.”

2013 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“The Pritchard Hill is Chappellet's benchmark cab, and the 2013 is another masterpiece. Richly layered with impressive depth and length, this wine offers up succulent notes of ripe blackberry, currant and blueberry, with subtle notes of wood spice. The tannins are ample but supple, suggesting a bright future. It's clearly one of the stars of the exceptional 2013 vintage.” **98 Points**

-Robert Whitley, December 2017

Vinous

“Even today, Chappellet's surroundings are pretty rustic, so it's hard to imagine what things were like back in the 1960s, when the winery was founded. Winemaking is mostly done in the new facility that is just a few years old, while the original barn-like building is mostly used for receiving guests. The sense of history is palpable, for **this is where some of the most epic Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons of the late 1960s and 1970s were made.** Within the context of modern-day Napa Valley, the Chappellet Cabernets remain powerful, structured and built for cellaring. My sense is that there is a return to a more classic approach after a period of venturing towards a more overt style.”

2013 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Tasted from barrel, the 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill, boasts stunning depth and richness. Sage, rosemary, mint and spices wrap around a huge core of blue/purplish fruit as the 2013 races across the palate. This is another wine for the exceedingly patient. There is no shortage of personality here, though. The balance of fruit, minerality and acidity is magnificent.” **94-97 Points (94 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out; 97 Points: Exceptional. A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world's great, iconic wines)**

-Antonio Galloni, December 2014

JamesSuckling.com

“The Top 100 Reds of Napa Valley 2016”

“What a year it's been for America's most famous wine region, as most wines I scored were from the glorious 2012 and 2013 vintages. I tasted about 1,000 wines from Napa this year over four

different trips. The list continues with many classics as well as relative newcomers. I tried to pick wines that excited me not so much for their flamboyance but for their beauty, complexity and balance. Drinkability, of course, is paramount and I think great wines are great from the beginning, whether from barrel or from bottle and through the years in the cellar. Napa is on a roll with a trio of great vintages and fabulous wines—and we look forward to spending even more time with these great wines.”

2013 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Amazing aromas of dark fruits but there's a soulful undertone of forest floor, sweet tobacco and leaves. Full body, ultra-fine tannins and a delicious finish. Ultra-refined. So drinkable now. Harmonious and thoughtful. Elegant.” **97 Points: A must buy**

-James Suckling, November 2016

Vinous

“A deep, inky wine, the 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill exudes richness and concentration. Blackberry jam, crème de cassis, graphite, mocha, smoke and spices meld together as this ample, structured Cabernet Sauvignon shows off its personality. The Pritchard Hill is made in a ripe, concentrated style that is quite typical of the vintage. At the same time, the impact of heavier extractions and more new oak also shapes the wine to a significant degree. I am not sure the Pritchard Hill is meaningfully more complex than the Signature, but it is quite striking just the same. As good as the 2013 is today - and it is terrific - my sense is that it would be even better with less oak influence. This is an especially somber, virile Cabernet Sauvignon from Chappellet. Drink 2023 – 2043.” **96 Points: A profound and emotionally moving wine that exemplifies the very best attributes of its kind. These are the world's great, iconic wines**

-Antonio Galloni, October 2015

Forbes.com

“Standout Wines”

“The **2013 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon** is majestic, its floral notes juxtaposed with brilliantly structured tannins that carry flavors of mineral, brambly berries, and hints of licorice. I'd hold onto this for at least five more years, and then drink it over the following decade...or two.”

-Brian Freedman, June 2017

Wine Spectator

“Bold, rich and expansive, big without being weighty or oversized, this offers well-defined plum, raspberry, currant and cranberry flavors, turning elegant and refined. Ends with a graceful, polished texture. Drink now through 2030.” **93 Points: Outstanding; a wine of superior character and style**

-James Laube, July 2016

Wine Enthusiast

“Blended with small amounts of Malbec, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, this shows classic mountain characteristics of strength and power, with a smooth sublime foundation of textured tannin at its core. Dark cherry, vanilla and chocolate provide a richness of broad flavor, accented in cedar, tobacco and an underlying acidity that leaves a tangy finish.” **94 Points: Superb; a great achievement**

-Virginie Boone, November 2017

Forbes.com

“Ringed by mossy rocks in a forest glade, visiting Chappellet feels like stepping into a storybook. For adults. Who love wine. And the wines of Chappellet have a legendary story, too. This year, the winery celebrates its 50th anniversary and the achievement of being the only post-Prohibition Napa Valley winery to do so. How better to honor both this iconic brand and your fabulous father than by gifting a bottle of the Pritchard Hill. This limited-production wine is the most sought after in their portfolio. Inspired by Bordeaux yet stamped by lush Napa mountain fruit, this young wine expresses as deep and velvety, brimming with blackberry, cassis, cedar and a hint of violet. Dad can drink now, but really, really shouldn't. Patience will reward on this one.”

-Lauren Mowery, June 2017

Wine Review Online

“An Aristocrat of Napa Valley Cabernet”

2013 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon – 94 Points

“Napa Valley’s history of grape-growing dates to 1839, and its first commercial winemaking dates to 1861. The number of wineries grew to 140 by 1889, but the combined setbacks of the first phylloxera scourge and Prohibition brought Napa Valley’s burgeoning wine production to its knees in the early twentieth century. In 1966, Robert Mondavi Winery became the first new winery in Napa Valley since Prohibition. One year later, Chappellet Vineyard became the second.

This year Chappellet Vineyard celebrates the 50th anniversary of its founding. Donn and Molly Chappellet established their Napa Valley estate off the beaten track, high atop Pritchard Hill in the eastern part of the county, where thin volcanic soils, boulders, steep slopes and breathtaking views challenged them to produce wines that reflect their dramatic origin. Not only have Chappellet wines earned enormous acclaim but also the land they pioneered, Pritchard Hill, has become home to other acclaimed wineries such as Colgin, Tim Mondavi’s Continuum, Ovid, and Bryant Family Vineyards. Through it all, the winery has remained family owned and operated.

Cabernet Sauvignon is the cornerstone of Chappellet’s estate production, complemented by four other red varieties of Bordeaux heritage – Merlot, Malbec, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc – and also Chenin Blanc. (Having determined that Chardonnay is not suitable for the terroir of Pritchard Hill, the Chappellets source that grape through longstanding partnerships with growers in cooler parts of Napa Valley.) Of the 48 distinctive vineyard blocks within the estate vineyards, the majority are dedicated to Cabernet Sauvignon.

The pinnacle of Chappellet’s product line is the limited-production Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon, currently available in the 2013 vintage. **This is a glorious wine, among the finest Napa Valley Cabs I have tasted.** It is rich in aroma and flavor and rich in body, but it is also surprisingly nuanced. It is a wine that speaks of its grapes and its vineyard far more than its winemaking, which is a high compliment to longtime Chappellet winemaker Phillip Corallo-Titus.

Here’s a rather more literal description of what you can experience from the wine. The wine’s aroma is pronounced and so complex that its expression can vary every time you nose the wine. The fundamental fruit aroma of blackberry is supplemented by accents of licorice, black pepper, sweet spices, cedar, and mint. The wine enters your mouth soft and rich; mouthwatering acidity and grainy tannins emerge on the mid-palate. The wine’s concentrated ripe fruit surrounds the acid-tannin structure but it is not so dense that you can’t taste through to the wine’s energetic core. The texture is smooth and easy. The flavors express the nuances that the aroma promised: high-toned herbal

notes, savory mineral tones, soft cocoa accents and classic lead-pencil flavors a la Bordeaux. Pronounced as these flavors are, in the context of this wine they somehow convey understatement. This wine is a blend of 83 percent Cabernet Sauvignon with 8 percent Malbec, 6 percent Cabernet Franc and 3 percent Petit Verdot.”

-Mary Ewing-Mulligan, June 2017

Vinography

“Their flagship Cabernet Bottling labeled for the place it’s grown is a classic Napa Cabernet bound to please anyone who enjoys the form. Very dark garnet in the glass, this wine smells of cherry and tobacco and espresso. In the mouth, beautifully refined cherry and chocolate and cola flavors are draped in a blanket of suede suppleness that stiffens with time as cherry and herbs linger through a long finish tinged with crushed nuts. Poised and refined.” **Around 9 out of 10 Points**

-Alder Yarrow, August 2017

Robb Report

“9 Classic California Wines That Any Oenophile Will Love

Classic California wines can solve all your last-minute gifting needs.”

“Choose an iconic California producer—a winery that garners critical acclaim year after year, even if it isn’t the newest, shiniest thing—and there’s a natural transfer of respect. A label that has consistently ranked among the best for, in many cases, decades, says the gift and the recipient are significant.

And there’s never been a better time for such a strategy. Our recent tastings of many of California’s longest-running iconic wines have turned up terrific winemaking. In many cases, these producers have found a beautiful balance in their reds, refraining from the trends toward über-ripe, high-alcohol heavy hitters and lean-and-green ‘backlash’ wines. These are bottles that offer generous fruit and impressive structure, so whether your giftee pops the cork in the next two weeks or tucks the bottle into the cellar, he or she will be well rewarded, and think of you fondly in the end.”

2013 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“This impressive wine from iconic Chappellet shows the mountain characteristics that Pritchard Hill gives up. Its firm structure is belied by lush black fruit, in turn layered with smoke box, leather, sage, vanilla, anise, and granitelike minerality.”

-Sara Schneider, December 2018

2012

Wine Advocate

“Chappellet – A Complete 50-Year Retrospective”

“The 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is a blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Malbec and 10% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple colored, it simply sings of freshly crushed blueberries and blackcurrants with wonderfully expressive licorice, dark chocolate, tilled earth and wood smoke nuances plus touches of crushed rocks and black truffles. Medium-bodied, it has an exquisite frame of very fine grained tannins and seamless freshness supporting the wonderfully intense blue and black fruit flavors, finishing with an epically long, mineral-laced finish.” **100 Points: An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Lisa Perrotti-Brown, May 2018

Wine Advocate

“This is one of the blue bloods of Napa Valley with an impressive résumé. (One of the greatest Cabernet Sauvignons I have ever tasted from the valley was the 1969 Chappellet made by Philip Togni).”

2012 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“The dense purple-colored 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill Estate (one of Napa’s fashionable go-to terroirs) exhibits a striking bouquet of spring flowers, blueberries, raspberries and blackcurrants. This is a compelling wine with **profound depth and flavor**, a full-bodied mouthfeel, and a velvety integration of tannin, acidity and wood. Pushing perfection in Cabernet Sauvignon, this multidimensional, skyscraper-like offering has all the intensity one expects, but it never comes across as heavy. This gives it an ethereal character that is nearly impossible to articulate, but genius is often hard to explain. It is clearly a major superstar of a great vintage.” **99+ Points; An extraordinary wine of profound and complex character displaying all the attributes expected of a classic wine of its variety. Wines of this caliber are worth a special effort to find, purchase, and consume**

-Robert Parker, October 2014

JamesSuckling.com

“Everyone Shines with 2012 Napa Reds”

“The 2012 vintage does appear to be a near-perfect vintage, and most producers, even more commercial wineries, made outstanding quality wines. The 2012s tend to show wonderful opulence and purity as well as harmony and balance. Moreover, they are wonderfully attractive to drink young, which is an added value for Napa reds when compared with some other key wine regions in the world.”

2012 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Beautiful aromas of flowers, dark fruits and minerals. Complex and subtle. Full body and very fine tannins with walnuts, berries and citrus fruit undertones. A wine with verve and fruit intensity. Drink or hold.” **95 Points: A must buy**

-James Suckling, July 2015

Vinous

“The 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Pritchard Hill is rich and explosive, with tons of concentration, depth and structure. Dark blue and black fruit, mocha, smoke, menthol, licorice and spices all burst from the glass as this huge, tannic Cabernet Sauvignon shows off its **pure class**. Readers will have to be patient with the 2012, a wine that will blow the roof off the house with its unbridled power.” **94+ Points; Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, December 2014

WineSpeed

“Recently, the critic Robert Parker hosted a tasting of ten cabernets and cabernet blends from Pritchard Hill. Not an official appellation, Pritchard Hill is nonetheless considered one of the top mountain districts within the Napa Valley. Here are my four top wines.”

2012 Chappellet Pritchard Hill Cabernet Sauvignon

“Spice, saddle leather and sassafras. You can taste the mountains. Vivid and long.”

-Karen MacNeil, November 2016

Forbes.com

“Lots of concentrated rich fruit with blueberry pie that had notes of licorice and upheaved earth and a mineral note that lingered on the long finish.”

-Cathrine Todd, August 2020