Dalla Valle

The Dalla Valle Maya 2020 is an exquisite, confident blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, showcasing depth, elegance, and the strength of Napa Valley's Oakville AVA.

DALLA VALLE
Vineyards

Maya 2020

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **Oakville AVA** in Napa Valley is renowned for its warm days and cool evenings, allowing for balanced ripening and the development of rich flavors and aromas. The **2020 growing season** began with dry conditions and a warm spring, followed by a summer of moderate temperatures that encouraged slow, steady maturation. The accelerated ripening in August led to an early harvest, yielding fruit of outstanding quality.

Maya's Vineyard, from which this blend takes its name, is a unique parcel that consistently produces some of the estate's finest Cabernet Sauvignon. The vineyard's iron-rich soils contribute to the wine's complexity and mineral character, while the elevation and orientation provide ideal sunlight and drainage.

Winemaking

The **2020 Maya** is a blend of **60% Cabernet Sauvignon** and **40% Cabernet Franc**, chosen from the finest lots to create a harmonious, structured wine. Each varietal is fermented separately, enhancing its individual character before being skillfully blended. The wine is then aged in French oak barrels, where it gains depth and complexity, integrating subtle spice notes and a smooth, polished texture.

The 2020 vintage captures the unique challenges and dedication of the vineyard team, resulting in a wine with remarkable balance and an elegant, powerful profile. The firm yet silky tannins contribute to a prolonged weight on the palate, ensuring the wine's aging potential.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with a dense, luminous core.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of frankincense, clove, and cedar greet the nose, evolving into delicate notes of Rainier cherry and lingonberry.
- **Palate**: Rich and structured, with flavors of red fruit layered over firm, silky tannins. The finish is long and elegant, leaving a lasting impression of spice and minerality.

Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Cabernet Franc

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Did you know?

The **2020 Maya** blend represents the best of Dalla Valle's dedication to excellence, crafted with fruit from Maya's Vineyard, a site known for producing some of Napa Valley's most distinctive and sought-after Cabernet Sauvignon.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Herb-Crusted Rack of Lamb**: The wine's firm tannins and spice complement the richness of lamb, while herbs highlight its aromatic profile.
- **Duck Breast with Cherry Sauce**: The red fruit notes in the wine echo the cherry sauce, creating a harmonious pairing with duck's savory richness.
- **Aged Manchego Cheese**: The nutty flavors of aged Manchego balance the wine's structure and enhance its complexity.
- **Wild Mushroom Risotto**: Earthy mushroom flavors complement the wine's mineral notes, while the creamy risotto softens its tannins.

99 Decanter

Decanter (DCT) : 99 Points (2020)

Fragrant and so scented on the nose, inviting and cool. The classic blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Cabernet Franc is smooth and supple on the palate, crisp and crunchy yet smooth and silky and also slightly chewy and bouncy. A lovey combination of power and focus, this has drive and sculpt, nuance and detail. Excellent presentation, really fills the palate with juice, energy brightness. Lovely length and overall structure, fels well worked, full but not overpowering, rich but not overly alcoholic - a wonderful presentation and totally delicious. Winemakers Naoko Dalla Valle and Andy Erickson. (GH)

97

Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2020)

Perhaps there's a subtle added touch of leafy complexity to the 2020 Maya that the Cabernet Sauvignon doesn't show, but otherwise, this 60-40 blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc is reasonably similar, with black cherries, dark loamy notes, hints of cassis, cedar and vanilla. It's medium to full-bodied, richly textured and tannic but with a slightly open-knit feel and a ripe, softly wooly finish. (JC)

96 James Suckling

James Suckling (JS) : 96 Points (2020)

Subtle yet transparent blackberry, black licorice and cassis bush. Some sage and lavender as well. Graphite, too. Full-bodied, yet tight and poised on the palate, with tight and refined tannins that are compact in the mouth. They are layered and run vertically down the wine. Turns nicely austere at the end. Very well done for the vintage.