

Dalla Valle

The Dalla Valle Maya 2014 is a powerful yet refined blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, characterized by its concentrated fruit and seamless structure, showcasing Napa Valley's Oakville AVA.

DALLA VALLE
Vineyards

Maya 2014

California, USA



Alcohol :14,60 %

Composition: 60% Cabernet Franc, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon

Region and Vineyards

Dalla Valle Vineyards is located in Napa Valley's prestigious **Oakville AVA**, known for its warm, sunny climate and well-draining, rocky soils ideal for Cabernet. The **2014 vintage** benefitted from a mild and sunny season, allowing for the development of fruit with ample concentration and well-rounded tannins. This vintage provided optimal conditions for ripening, leading to juicy flavors and balanced acidity across grape varieties.

The Dalla Valle estate vineyards, located on the eastern slopes of Oakville, have iron-rich volcanic soils that impart a distinctive mineral character and structure to the wine. Each vineyard block contributes unique elements, allowing for creative blending and enhancing the complexity of the Maya blend.

Winemaking

The **2014 Maya** is a blend of **Cabernet Sauvignon** and **Cabernet Franc**, crafted from the finest blocks of Dalla Valle's vineyards. Each varietal was meticulously harvested and handled, with careful control over fermentation, pressing, and aging to capture the vineyard's essence. Aging occurred in carefully selected barrels, allowing for the integration of flavors while preserving the wine's purity and complexity.

This vintage is noted for its velvety tannins and highly structured profile, providing the wine with the ability to age gracefully for two decades or more. The result is a wine with intensity, depth, and a polished texture that promises longevity and continued development in the bottle.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep, dense ruby with an intense, almost opaque core.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of fresh Bing cherry, dried currant, and exotic spices, including cardamom, fenugreek, and hints of cocoa and cinnamon.
- **Palate**: Bold and muscular, with concentrated red fruit, fine-grained tannins, and a velvety mouthfeel. The finish is exceptionally long and carries a polished, seamless impression from start to finish.

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Did you know?

The **Maya** blend is crafted to showcase Dalla Valle's commitment to quality and terroir, consistently incorporating the estate's best blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. The 2014 Maya will easily age for over 20 years, making it a collector's wine for those who appreciate Napa's finest expressions.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Braised Short Ribs with Star Anise**: The wine's exotic spice notes and structured tannins balance the richness of braised short ribs, while star anise complements its aromatic complexity.
- **Roasted Duck Breast with Cherry Reduction**: The bright cherry flavors in the wine harmonize with the cherry reduction, creating a balanced and savory pairing.
- **Aged Parmesan or Gouda Cheese**: The nutty and caramelized flavors of aged cheeses accentuate the wine's depth and velvety finish.
- **Wild Mushroom Risotto**: Earthy mushrooms highlight the wine's mineral qualities, while the creamy texture of risotto complements its polished tannins.

96

Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2014)

It is excellent, but not one of the great efforts from this iconic winery situated on the eastern Vaca hillsides above the Oakville corridor. That said, the 2014 Maya Proprietary Red may not be as perfect as the 2013 was, but it is a fabulous effort. Finishing at 14.6% alcohol, this wine (generally a blend of about 60% Cabernet Franc and the rest Cabernet Sauvignon) has incredibly gorgeous aromatics of black and blue fruits, forest floor, violets, and an almost Graves-like, scorched earth, gravelly nuance. The wine hits the palate with a full-bodied richness and terrific harmony among its structural elements such as alcohol, acidity, tannin and wood, with moderately sweet tannins in the finish. It is a good 30- to 35-year wine, as most Mayas have tended to be, and is impressive and surprisingly structured for a 2014. Forget it for 3-4 years and drink it over the following 35-40 years.

96 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 96 Points (2014)

The 2014 Maya is powerful, compact and closed in on itself. That's not much of a surprise given the wine was just bottled a few months ago. Dark, powerful and intense, the 2014 offers plenty of energy, but is also holding back much of its potential at this stage. The blend is 75% Cabernet Sauvignon and 25% Cabernet Franc, which is to say more Cabernet than has been the norm in recent years. There is plenty of intensity to the pomegranate, plum, red cherry and blood orange flavors, but the wine needs time to come into its own.