

Cardinale

Cardinale 2007 is an opulent Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon blend that masterfully balances mountain vineyard structure with benchland vineyard richness, resulting in a wine of velvety texture and immense depth.

CARDINALE

Cardinale 2007

California, USA



Region and Vineyards

Cardinale 2007 is sourced entirely from **Napa Valley**, with approximately **90% of the fruit coming from mountain vineyards**. The blend integrates grapes from iconic regions:

- **Howell Mountain (1,825 feet)**: Contributes cassis, blueberry, herbal notes, and firm structure, grown in white and red volcanic rocky loam soils.
- **Spring Mountain (1,800 feet)**: Adds minerality, smokiness, floral tones, and length from volcanic loam soils.
- **Mount Veeder (1,800 feet)**: Known for bold tannins, dark fruit, and floral aromas, grown in gravelly black soils.
- **Diamond Mountain (1,850 feet)**: Brings red fruit, cassis, and a silky mouthfeel from volcanic loam.
- **Oakville and St. Helena Benchlands (150 feet)**: Enhance mid-palate richness, chocolate, crème, and black cherry flavors.

This blend reflects the diverse terroirs of Napa Valley, combining high-elevation freshness with benchland opulence.

Winemaking

The 2007 vintage is a blend of **86% Cabernet Sauvignon** and **14% Merlot**, meticulously aged for **22 months in 100% French oak barrels**, of which **90% are new** .

The meticulous ageing process enhances the wine's complexity, balancing the structure imparted by mountain fruit with the lushness of warmer valley grapes. The result is a wine that is both approachable and capable of long-term cellaring.

Alcohol :14,80 %

Composition: 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Opaque purple with stunning vibrancy.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of **sweet red and black currants**, **kirsch**, **spice box**, **licorice**, and hints of **toasty new oak**.
- **Palate**: Full-bodied and layered, with flavors of **dark fruit**, **anise**, **graphite**, and velvety tannins. The wine offers a supple texture and a long, elegant finish.
- **Ageing Potential**: Capable of evolving beautifully for **25 years**.

Did you know?

The 2007 vintage received **94 points from Robert Parker**, who highlighted its structure, depth, and long-term potential. This wine is a testament to Cardinale's philosophy of blending exceptional vineyard sources to craft a unified and harmonious expression.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled Ribeye with Herb Butter**: The wine's bold tannins and dark fruit complement the richness of a well-marbled steak.
- **Braised Lamb Shank with Rosemary**: The earthy flavors of lamb pair beautifully with the wine's herbal and anise notes.
- **Dark Chocolate Mousse with Black Cherry Coulis**: The wine's kirsch and cassis flavors harmonize with the dessert's richness.
- **Aged Gouda or Parmigiano-Reggiano**: The wine's complexity enhances the nutty, umami characteristics of these cheeses.

94

Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2007)

The impressive 2007 exhibits an opaque purple color as well as abundant aromas of sweet red and black currants, kirsch, spice box, licorice, and toasty new oak. Full-bodied, big, structured, and layered,it will benefit from 3-4 years of cellaring. Winemaker Christopher Carpenter has again turned out a wine that should evolve for 25 years. Impressive.

93 WINEENTHUSIAST

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 93 Points (2007)

A darkly colored, tannic Cabernet whose dry astringency keeps it from being thoroughly enjoyable now. Despite the astringency, however, it showcases an immaculate core of blackberries and black currants. Elegant and classy, it should age well throughout the decade. Cellar Selection.

93 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 93 Points (2007)

Bright full ruby. Sexy oak complements aromas of crushed cassis, black cherry, violet, licorice and bitter chocolate. Pliant and dense but with a captivating light touch to the dark fruit and violet flavors. Classic firmly structured Napa Cabernet, finishing impressively long and lively, with fine-grained tannins. Winemaker Chris Carpenter is able to select from Jess Jackson's Artisans & Estates' best Cabernet vineyards around Napa Valley. (ST) (5/2010)