



# Kendall-Jackson

From estate-grown vineyards in Alexander Valley, this Cabernet reveals bold varietal character, refined oak integration, and the timeless appeal of California's coastal ridges.



93  
Decanter



## Grand Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2021

California, USA

### Region and Vineyards

The *Grand Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2021* is composed of **94% Alexander Valley** and **6% Knights Valley** fruit, all from **estate vineyards**. These vineyards are planted on **mountain, ridge, hillside, and benchland sites**, ensuring excellent drainage, exposure, and temperature variation. This geography enables optimal ripening conditions with long hangtime for the grapes, resulting in profound depth and concentration.

**Alexander Valley** is especially suited for Cabernet Sauvignon, offering a combination of warmth, elevation, and mineral-rich soils. Approximately **70% of the fruit comes from the same blocks each year**, ensuring continuity and depth of expression. All estate vineyards are **Certified Sustainable** by the **Certified California Sustainable Winegrowing (CCSW)** and **Sustainability in Practice (SIP)** programs.

### Winemaking

This vintage is a Bordeaux-style blend dominated by **81% Cabernet Sauvignon**, complemented by **8% Merlot**, **6% Petit Verdot**, **3% Cabernet Franc**, and **2% Malbec**. These varieties contribute roundness, floral lift, and tannic structure. A **cold soak prior to fermentation** helps extract color and soften tannins for a more integrated profile.

The wine was aged for **17 months in 79% French oak barrels (31% new)**, which enhances the structure while adding notes of mocha, toast, and spice. This approach emphasizes finesse and complexity while respecting the fruit's origin.

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with purple edges.
- **Aroma:** Rich aromatics of blackberry, blueberry, red and black currants, mocha, and nutmeg.
- **Palate:** Bold yet refined, with layers of ripe fruit, fine-grained tannins, and integrated notes of chocolate and toasty vanilla. The finish is long, plush, and structured, delivering freshness and persistence.

Alcohol :14,20 %

Composition: 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec



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## Did you know?

The **Grand Reserve collection** is Kendall-Jackson's top-tier regional expression, made with the same attention to detail found in boutique wineries. This Cabernet consistently receives critical acclaim and was awarded **93 points by Decanter** in 2024, a testament to its quality and age-worthiness.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Chargrilled ribeye with rosemary jus:** A robust match that highlights the wine's depth and tannins.
- **Lamb chops with garlic and thyme:** Earthy and savory, the dish mirrors the wine's spice and dark fruit.
- **Pasta with wild boar ragu:** Gamey richness brings out the complexity of the blend.
- **Hard cheeses like aged Gouda or Manchego:** Their firm texture and nutty flavor complement the wine's finish.



### Decanter (DCT) : 93 Points (2021)

*Rich with lots of dark fruits and chocolate here, and grainy tannins. There's also a chalkiness to this wine, perhaps due to the good tannic structure, that gives it dimension and ageability. (JG)*



### Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2019)

*The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Reserve is blended with 7% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 3% Malbec and 1% Petit Verdot and was matured for 15 months in 30% new French oak. It has a deep ruby-purple color and pretty accents of cinnamon, violet, leather, dried herbs and bitter chocolate complementing cassis fruit. The full-bodied palate is concentrated yet fresh, with finely grained tannins, pure flavors and a very long finish.*



### Wines & Spirits (W&S) : 91 Points (2019)

*This grows at high-elevation estate vineyards, predominantly from the mountains above Alexander Valley (91 percent) with a contribution from Knights Valley. That tight, mountain-grown structure is apparent in the iron-filing austerity of the tannins and the restraint they place on the wine's dark floral fruit. You could play off the capsicum spice in those youthful tannins and decant this for a slow-braised pork shoulder. Or you could cellar it for five years or more.*



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