Stag's Leap Wine Cellars

Stag's Leap Wine Cellars Cask 23 Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 represents the pinnacle of Napa Valley winemaking, blending elegance and power with seamless precision from the historic S.L.V. and FAY vineyards .

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Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Cask 23 Cabernet Sauvignon 2019

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

Cask 23 is crafted from the finest fruit of the estate's two iconic vineyards:

- **S.L.V.** contributes structure, concentration, and spice intensity from its volcanic soils.
- **FAY** offers vibrant fruit flavors, a supple mid-palate, and perfumed aromatics from its alluvial soils.

For the **2019 vintage**, the blend included **52% S.L.V.** (blocks 2B, 2A, 3B) and **48% FAY** (blocks 10A, 2A, 3A, 7, 12A, 9). These adjoining vineyards create a perfect balance of power and elegance, highlighting the unique terroirs of the **Stags Leap District**.

Winemaking

The **2019 vintage** began with a wet spring, boosting canopy growth but causing some shatter during bloom, which naturally reduced yields. A long growing season with near -ideal summer conditions allowed grapes to develop slowly, achieving optimal ripeness. Harvest occurred from **September 30 to October 22, 2019**, ensuring a wine with richness and complexity.

The wine underwent fermentation in **11% French oak barrels with heads removed**, followed by **100% malolactic fermentation**. It was aged for **21 months in 100% new French oak barrels**, with each lot aged separately during the first year to enhance its unique characteristics before blending in the second year. The final composition is **100% Cabernet Sauvignon**, bottled unfiltered for maximum purity, with an alcohol content of **14.8%**.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep garnet red with brilliant clarity.
- **Aromas**: Fragrant and fresh, with notes of **red and black currant**, **black tea**, **anise**, and a touch of **nutmeg**.
- **Palate**: Vibrant and structured, featuring flavors of **blackberry**, **currant**, and savory spice. Velvety tannins lead to a long, elegant finish with integrated oak and refined complexity.

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Cask 23 Cabernet Sauvignon 2019

Did you know?

Cask 23 was first created in **1974**, when winemaker **André Tchelistcheff** identified an exceptional lot from the **S.L.V. vineyard**. Its distinct character inspired a separate bottling, establishing its reputation as one of Napa Valley's most iconic wines.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Braised short ribs with porcini mushrooms and polenta**: Enhances the wine's richness and savory complexity.
- **Pork chops with roasted apples and honey**: Complements the wine's fruity and spicy undertones.
- **Truffled goat cheese risotto with prosciutto and arugula**: Matches the wine's velvety texture and aromatic depth.
- **Aged Parmesan or Manchego cheese**: Highlights the wine's refined structure and tannins.

99 JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 99 Points (2019)

Sporting a deep purple hue to go with a brilliant bouquet of pure blue fruits as well as violets, lead pencil shavings, and chocolaty nuances. Concentrated, powerful, and full-bodied on the palate, it's a structured, tannic wine delivering ultra-fine tannins, flawless balance, perfectly integrated oak, and one heck of a finish.

96

Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2019)

Approximately 10% of the wine that went into the 2019 Cask 23 Cabernet Sauvignon was barrel fermented, so expect experimentation in that area to continue. The wine is a terrific example of this cuvée, offering tantalizing floral aromas set against a backdrop of ripe cherries and black cherries. It's medium to full-bodied, intense, rich and ripe, yet still silky and elegant, with a vibrant, mouthwatering finish.

95 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 95 Points (2019)

Ripe and forward in feel, with lots of seductive plum sauce and blackberry compote flavors leading the way, backed by bittersweet cocoa and alder accents. A nice flash of savory underneath gives this energy, range and lift through the finish. And despite the flattering showing, this has ample fine-grained structure for cellaring. Drink now through 2038.