



Silver Oak

A classic from California, the 2019 Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon showcases the harmony between power and finesse, offering a wine built for both immediate pleasure and graceful aging.



Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2019

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

Nestled in northern Sonoma County, **Alexander Valley** is one of California's most revered appellations for Cabernet Sauvignon. This inland region benefits from warm daytime temperatures, ideal for ripening Bordeaux varieties, while evening fog from the Pacific Ocean helps maintain freshness and acidity in the grapes. The terroir is marked by diverse soils—gravel, clay, and alluvial deposits—contributing to complexity and structure in the wines.

The 2019 vintage in Alexander Valley experienced a delayed budbreak due to a cool spring, followed by a warm and steady summer that delivered ideal ripening conditions. The resulting crop was generous and well-balanced, with optimal phenolic development. Silver Oak's estate vineyards are meticulously managed, with crop thinning and canopy control applied to enhance concentration and purity of flavor. The region's moderate temperatures and careful farming practices produce fruit with exceptional vibrancy and longevity.

Winemaking

The **2019 Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon** is a blend dominated by **95.2% Cabernet Sauvignon**, complemented by **2.5% Cabernet Franc**, **1.9% Merlot**, and **0.4% Petit Verdot**. This classic Bordeaux-inspired assemblage is vinified with precision to highlight varietal character and site expression.

Aged in American oak barrels—crafted by Silver Oak's own cooperage—for optimal integration and signature style, the wine develops polished tannins and layers of spice. The winery's commitment to extended barrel aging, typically around 24 months, and further bottle aging ensures readiness upon release while supporting long-term cellaring potential. With an alcohol level of **14.4%**, the wine is powerful yet balanced, carrying its richness with poise.

Alcohol :14,40 %

Composition: 95% Cabernet
Sauvignon, 2% Merlot, 2% Merlot,
1% Petit Verdot



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Brilliant ruby with violet hues at the rim, showcasing depth and youthfulness.
- **Aroma:** Inviting aromas of red cherry, raspberry, and blackberry are accented by iris, clove, and a touch of vanilla from oak maturation.
- **Palate:** Juicy and vibrant on the mid-palate with blackcurrant, baking spices, and lifted acidity. The tannins are finely integrated, leading to a lingering, fruit-forward finish.

Did you know?

Silver Oak was one of the first California wineries to commit exclusively to aging its Cabernet Sauvignon in American oak, a choice that imparts a unique signature of spice and warmth. The estate also operates one of the few winery-owned cooperages in the U.S., allowing complete control over the oak aging process.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled ribeye steak:** The wine's structure and ripe tannins complement the richness and char of a well-marbled cut.
- **Roast duck with cherry glaze:** The bright red fruit and spice notes echo the sweetness and complexity of the dish.
- **Aged cheddar or gouda:** Hard cheeses enhance the wine's fruit concentration and temper its tannins.
- **Wild mushroom risotto:** Earthy flavors and creamy textures are elevated by the wine's vibrant acidity and savory depth.



Decanter (DCT) : 95 Points (2019)

Aged in 50% new and 50% second-use American Oak from the Duncan family's The Oak cooperage in Higbee, Missouri. Matt Duncan joined me for my tasting, and he says the Petit Verdot in the blend, of which there is 0.4%, is co-fermented with the Cabernet Sauvignon, intended to bring focus to the Cabernet fruit. A compelling, brooding, muscular rendition of Cabernet from Alexander Valley with gorgeous boysenberry notes, black currants, and rose petals laced with vanillin notes and toasty oak. Medium to full-bodied with black currants, ripe blackberry and black cherry notes framed by velvety tannins laced with that irresistible vanillin note. Toasty oak spices lend a hint of sweetness, balanced by grippy acidity. Long and complex, revealing umami, garrigue, and crushed slatestone on the finish. It's a terrific wine from the Alexander Valley.



James Suckling (JS) : 94 Points (2019)

Handsome and classic for a Sonoma County cabernet, this full-bodied, approachable wine offers abundant aromas of black cherries, toasted oak and tobacco backed by gorgeous black cherries and black olive flavors on moderate tannins. It's 95% cabernet sauvignon. Best through 2034.



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