

# Independent Wine Evaluation

## 2014 Zinfandel, Louvau Vineyard, Meadowcroft Wines

Supple and juicy, balanced and refined—this is Zinfandel's elegant side. The foreground is equal measures of brambly dark fruit and concentrated red fruit, with an enduring overlay of rose perfume. Eastern and barbecue spices linger on the finish with black licorice, molasses and cocoa. With time and exposure, fir needles and cedar contribute to the character.

The palate sings with flavor while the nose is more reticent as of 2017. A light layer of ripe tannin lends needed structure. The body is typically full but not a jammy Zinfandel body; there is plenty of warmth and vigor from alcohol, yet plentiful acid and cooling herbal notes level its perceptibility. Characteristic of Dry Creek, its balance is noteworthy, and that allows delicate flavors on the palate to keep in step with a complex nose.

**Complexity:** Shows a wide, layered multiplicity of aromas and flavors

**Balance:** Structurally even; an integrated experience from nose to finish

**Expressiveness:** Loud and clear palate, with a slightly more muted nose

**Character:** Fruity, spicy, floral, plush and elegant; nothing controversial

**Typicity:** High; true to the character of its variety and growing region

## THE SOMMELIER COMPANY



**Appellation:** Dry Creek Valley  
AVA, Sonoma County

**Vintage:** 2014

**Composition:** Zinfandel

**Alcohol:** 15%

**Release Price:** \$38

### VISUAL, AROMATIC AND FLAVOR CHARACTERISTICS:

**Appearance:** Clear ruby with youthful purple highlights; no rim variation

**Fruit, Floral:** Redcurrant, Bing cherry, raspberry, dried blueberry, rose perfume

**Spice, Herbal, Vegetal:** Eastern spices, barbecue, cinnamon, clove, fir needles

**Oak, Earth, Other:** Cedar, molasses, cocoa, black licorice, bubblegum

### RESULTS:

#### Stage 1: Blind Tasting

— Complexity: 7/10

— Balance: 7/10

— Expressiveness: 6/10

#### Stage 2: Non-Blind

— Character: 5/10

— Typicity: 8/10

# SCORE: 90

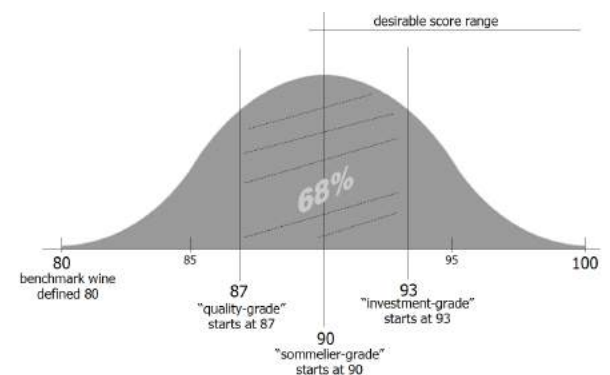


Tasting conducted December 12, 2017

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### EVALUATION MODEL:



**METHODOLOGY DISCLOSURE:** Full evaluation criteria and process description available upon request. Wines are tasted and evaluated in a controlled environment. Wine samples are provided by producer as part of paid evaluation assignment. Evaluation model assumes that wine quality is normally distributed between scores 80 and 100, where 80 represents a simple, but not flawed, standard wine.