Independent Wine Evaluation

THE SOMMELIER COMPANY

LONGHOUSE

2013 Pinot Noir, Longhouse Wines

This is a sturdy, supple Pinot Noir with a perfumed nose and layer upon layer of spice, concentrated fruit and contributions from a sophisticated oak treatment. It has the vigor and density of a more masculine Côtes de Nuits—and the dignified yet youthful elegance of a floral, feminine Pinot. Its aromas and flavors sing from the first moment and shine all evening, weaving more tightly together with exposure to air.

After an hour or so, deep notes of cocoa, roasted coffee and beeswax set in and its spicy fundament clarifies into cedar, cinnamon, anise, and clove. Herbal tea and fresh mint lend their sharp coolness to the palate, which is consistently a bit more intense than the nose. The texture and weight of the palate makes it substantive, rich, without detracting from the delicacy and finesse most fans of the grape are seeking to find.

Complexity: High; layers of diverse, delineated, complementary flavors
Balance: Good; alcohol is a bit more prominent than acid, but not badly so
Expressiveness: High; intense and persistent, many hours after opening
Character: Memorably spicy, floral, luxurious and elegant without frailty
Typicity: Fully within Pinot's aroma profile, in a California-typical style

Appellation: Napa County

Vintage: 2013

Composition: Pinot Noir

Alcohol: 15.3%

Release Price: $20

VISUAL, AROMATIC AND FLAVOR CHARACTERISTICS:

Appearance: Clear, deep ruby-garnet with tawny highlights at the rim

Fruit, Floral: Black cherry, raspberry, strawberry jam, orange peel, perfume

Spice, Herbal, Vegetal: Cinnamon, clove, star anise, herbal tea, mint

Oak, Earth, Other: Cedar, cherry wood, cocoa, soy sauce, coffee, beeswax

RESULTS:

Stage 1: Blind Tasting
—Complexity: 9/10
—Balance: 7/10
—Expressiveness: 9/10

Stage 2: Non-Blind
—Character: 8/10
—Typicity: 8/10
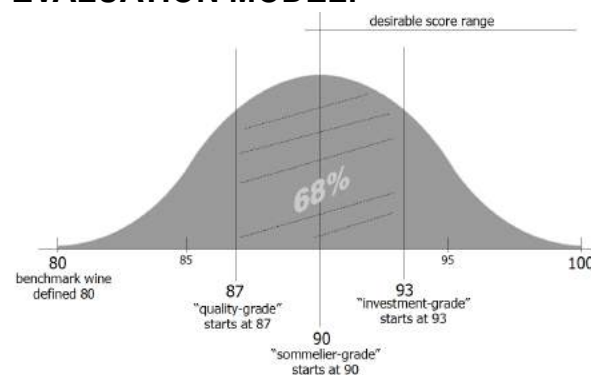
SCORE: 95

Tasting conducted March 23, 2018

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EVALUATION MODEL:

desirable score range

68%

80 benchmark wine defined 80

85

87 "quality-grade" starts at 87

90 "sommelier-grade" starts at 90

93 "investment-grade" starts at 93

95

100

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.

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