

Independent Wine Evaluation

THE SOMMELIER COMPANY

2014 "Three Vineyards" Cabernet Sauvignon, Pedroncelli Winery

This is a spice-filled, fruit-driven, classical Left Bank Bordeaux-style blend from Dry Creek. The fruit is tart and red in the beginning, but settles into a cheerful raspberry-cassis-dark cherry triumvirate. Hints of blueberry and orange are there, but in sum this is a very "red" Cabernet blend.

A little spare and angular at the outset, the palate showed best with an hour of exposure. The mouthfeel became richer and more velvety; the dimension of a graphite or gravelly mineral earth note added complexity, and brown sugar softened the finish. Spice and rich fruit remained dominant.

The 14.1% alcohol is integrated, but at times amplified by menthol. Acidity is perceived as typically high (for a cooler-weather Bordeaux blend). The tannins are grippy as of 2016 and suggest aging a couple of years.

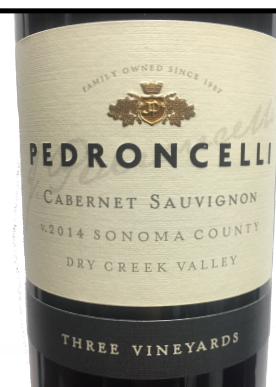
Complexity: Average; shows nice fruit and spice complexity

Balance: Overall balanced; menthol elevates perceived alcoholic heat at times, and tannins stand out early in the tasting but integrate with time

Intensity: Good; distinct aromas and flavors are rich and vibrant

Character: An uncomplicated, go-to fruit-and-spice Cabernet

Typicity: Typical of its component varietals and its region



Appellation: Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County

Vintage: 2014

Composition: 81% Cab. Sauv., 8% Cab. Franc, 7% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot

Alcohol: 14.1%

Release Price: \$19

VISUAL, AROMATIC AND FLAVOR CHARACTERISTICS:

Appearance: Deep ruby, bright and youthful, slightly clouded

Fruit and Floral: Raspberry, black cherry, cassis, blueberry, orange

Spice, Herbal and Vegetal: Baking spices, menthol, anise

Oak, Earth and Other: Cedar, brown sugar, graphite

RESULTS:

Stage 1: Blind Tasting

— Complexity: 5/10

— Balance: 6/10

— Intensity: 7/10

Stage 2: Non-Blind

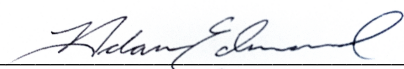
— Character: 6/10

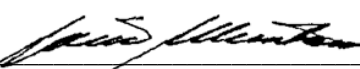
— Typicity: 7/10

SCORE: 88

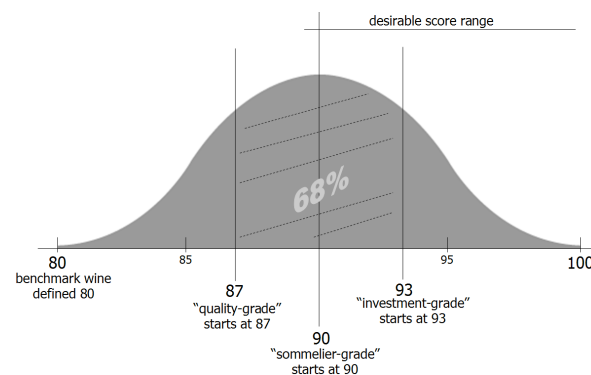


Tasting conducted September 20, 2016


Lead Evaluator, Adam Edmondson, CSW


Principal, Jörn Kleinhans, CSW

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.