

## Recommended California Cabernets

### **Arietta Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007**

Chunky and chewy, dense, full-bodied and concentrated, this rustic red is marked by dried currant, blueberry, graphite and black licorice. A potent, burly wine, ending with a roasted coffee and chicory edge.

90 pts

### **Buccella Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007**

A dark, rich, exotic style, this Cabernet is bold and intense, with kirsch, black currant, wild berry and black cherry flavors that are ripe. Full-bodied and well-structured, ending with along, persistent finish, where red and black licorice commingle.

97 pts

### **Chappellet Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Pritchard Hill 2007**

Sleek, rich and intense, this beautifully balanced red offers a complex mix of black currant and black cherry, red and black licorice. Firm, focused, expansive and layered, ending with classic Bordeaux-like cedar, tobacco and cigar box notes. **One of James Laube's Top Wines**

96 pts

### **Chappellet Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Signature 2007**

Very tightly wound, firm and taut, rich and full-bodied, offering intense mineral, blackberry, plum and currant fruit, with floral and sage hints. Ends with gripping tannins, but on the finish the flavors slowly unwind and expand.

92 pts

### **DANA Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Lotus Vineyard 2007**

A tremendous effort, dense and chewy, at points rustic but deeply concentrated, with a medley of dark berry fruits, loamy earth, mineral, sage and cedar, coming together nicely and maintaining a tight focus through the finish, where this ends with an espresso aftertaste. **One of James Laube's Top Wines**

96 pts

### **DANA Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford Helms Vineyard 2007**

Slow to unfold, but once it does this reveals a firm, complex and fascinating mix of dried currant, melted black licorice, rich blackberry, sage and mineral. This full-bodied red expands on the finish, where the flavors unfold gracefully, ending with ripe tannins. **One of James Laube's Top Wines**

96 pts

### **DANA Cabernet Sauvignon Rutherford Helms Vineyard 2006**

Rich berry, kirsch liqueur and black currant aromas fold over to the palate, providing a deep display of ripe fruit, which is framed by firm tannins that give this structure.

91 pts

### **HALL Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2006**

A rich, dense, concentrated style, this is full-bodied, focused and pure, with hints of mocha and black licorice rounding out the core currant, plum and black cherry flavors. Focused and persistent, with a long finish.

**One of James Laube's Top Values**

94 pts

### **The Hess Collection Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Allomi Vineyard 2007**

Taut and savory, with dill, plum and black cherry fruit that's firm and complex. Builds depth and density, and firming on the finish.

88 pts

### **Lewis Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007**

Offers wonderful complexity, richness, depth and finesse. Full-bodied, with creamy, mocha-laced oak, currant, mineral, tobacco and plum flavors that are bold yet elegant, focused and polished, ending with a long, lingering finish.

93 pts

### **Lewis Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Hillstone Vineyard 2007**

Firm and full-bodied, intense yet supple, with rich mocha, currant, herb, sage and mineral flavors that are complex, balanced and focused, slow to unfold but offering a little more nuance with each sip. Ends with fine-grained tannins.

94 pts

### **Lewis Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Reserve 2007**

Firm, rich, intense and concentrated, with a layered mix of blackberry, currant, black licorice, spice, cedary oak and mineral notes. Full-bodied, well-structured and focused, ending with a long, persistent finish.

95 pts

### **Lewis Cuvee L Napa Valley 2006**

Smooth, rich and creamy, with mocha-laced plum and black cherry fruit that's elegant, stylish, full-bodied and complex, ending with a long, firm, concentrated finish. Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc.

93 pts

### **Obsidian Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon Red Hills Lake County Obsidian Ridge Vineyard 2007**

Intense and vibrant, supple and complex, full-bodied, with spice, black cherry, wild berry and black licorice flavors that are focused and persistent.

88 pts

### **Pahlmeyer Jayson Napa Valley 2007**

Firm and meaty, with savory herb, dried currant, black licorice and blackberry fruit that's full-bodied, focused, ripe yet elegant, ending with detailed tannins. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Malbec.

90 pts

### **Pahlmeyer Napa Valley 2007**

A rich, explosive style, packed with layers of currant, blackberry, wild berry and black cherry fruit woven together in a tight way. Full-bodied, turning supple and polished on the finish, where the fine-grained tannins are ripe and let the fruit flavors flow freely. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Malbec.

95 pts

### **Pride Cabernet Sauvignon Napa-Sonoma Counties 2007**

Atypically tight and tannic for this wine, with firm tannins wrapped around a core of herb-laced cedar, dried currant, sage and mineral.

88 pts

### **Pride Cabernet Sauvignon Napa-Sonoma Counties 2006**

Lots of toasty, creamy oak is wrapped around a supple core of black cherry and currant. Full-bodied, balanced and smooth, ending with complex, fine-grained tannins. **One of James Laube's Top Wines**

97 pts

### **Round Pond Estate Rutherford 2007**

A tremendous effort, dense and chewy, robust and concentrated, with a rich, focused core of blackberry, currant, cedar, herb and mineral. Full-bodied, gaining depth and persistence. **One of James Laube's Top Values**

94 pts

### **Terra Valentine Cabernet Sauvignon Spring Mountain District 2007**

Tight, firm and complex, with an appealing mix of mineral, currant, cedar and graphite flavors. Full-bodied, focused and persistent, with a note of roasted sage.

89 pts