



2003 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Chateau Montelena, Napa Valley, USA

Product details

Vintage:	2003	Drinking:	Now 2020
Producer:	Chateau Montelena	Alcohol:	
Region:	Napa Valley	Variety:	Cabernet
Country:	USA		

Tasting notes

A big wine from the Barrett family (14.2% alcohol), this 2003 exhibits earthy black currant fruit, the restrained but intense Montelena style, full body, good richness and impeccable balance, purity and density. The color is a healthy dark ruby/purple and the wine shows lots of cassis. In spite of the restrained aromatics, the palate is rich, full-bodied, substantial and persuasive. This 2003 is approachable now, but it will be even more gorgeous 15, 20 and 25 years from now. This is a heritage wine from this great estate in northern Napa Valley. 94 points

About the producer

"You know you're doing something right when, after 45 years of Chardonnay winemaking, they name a California Chardonnay style after your winery, the 'Montelena style'." - Robert Parker, The Wine Advocate

Chateau Montelena is probably Napa's most iconic producer. With a history stretching back to 1882, the winery shot to fame with their 1973 Napa Chardonnay winning first place in the now famous 'Judgment of Paris' tasting. Since then Jim Barrett, and more recently his son Bo Barrett, have created a legacy that is synonymous with any discussion on the rise of Napa Valley in the world of fine wine. These are some of the most distinctive and attractive Californian wines available on the market.

"Year after year Chateau Montelena makes some of the most attractive, classically built Napa Valley Cabernets readers will come across"
- Antonio Galloni, Vinous Media

After a tricky 2011 vintage, Napa Valley 2012 is a return back to form for the region. Antonio Galloni says "The best 2012s are dazzling". Rest assured, this is one of the best estates in California, let alone Napa. This is one to collect and enthuse about over the coming years.

"2012, which I had the opportunity to taste at 12 months of age, looks spectacular... a great vintage that appears to be a no-brainer when it comes to consumers interest." - Robert Parker on Napa Valley 2012