



Brian's Wine Wednesday: The Count Red Blend

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In the colorful history of California, "The Count of Buena Vista" could be considered the founder of California wine. Agoston Haraszthy emigrated from Europe in 1840 in pursuit of opportunity and freedom in America. Following the forty-niners in search of gold in the hills of Northern California, he sought "purple gold" instead, and ultimately settled in Sonoma, where he founded Buena Vista Winery in 1857. Despite his death in 1869, Buena Vista Winery endures, and today produces some delicious wines, including the reasonably priced red blend which is his namesake, The Count.

I enjoy wines from Sonoma. They are subtler than their Napa cousins, and that is certainly the case here. Nice aromas of plum and coffee, tart flavors of cherry and vanilla with a tingling acidity that was unexpected. If you buy this one, let it warm up a bit to appreciate the dark fruit flavors which take a little time to emerge. This was interesting, and unlike most red blends I have tried.



On my five-cork scale based on taste and value, I give the 2013 [The Count Red Blend](#) from Buena Vista Winery 3 corks!

If you'd like to try interesting wines like this at our next Wine Wednesday Tasting Party at Tavolo Wine Bar and Tuscan Grille, [click here](#) to win a spot on the guest list!

–Brian Demay