

THE SURPRISE OF 2015 IN NAPA AND OTHER CALIFORNIA WINES REVIEWED

JAMES SUCKLING, MAY 2018

VINTAGE	NAME	TASTING NOTES	SCORE
2016	Lillie	Aromas of dried pears and peaches with hints of salt and white peppers. Full-bodied, layered and beautiful. Dense yet so bright and intense. Shows posture with generosity. Drink now.	91
2015	Cabernet Sauvignon	Blackberries with aromas of white peppers and chili peppers. Lavender undertones. Full-bodied, very tight and dense with a solid core of tannins and bright fruit. Savory at the end. A tile and terracotta finish. Drink or hold.	93
2015	LMV Salon	A dense and layered red with red tile, currants and hints of black peppers. Full-bodied and juicy with beautiful density and length. Granular tannins. A blend of cabernet sauvignon and cabernet franc. Needs two to three years to soften.	95
2015	Firebelle	This merlot-based red is really exciting with dark berries, dark chocolate and bark. Full-bodied, dense and layered. So serious and exciting. Merlot is great here. Drink in 2020.	96
2015	Dr. Olmo	Currants and blackberries and hints of walnuts and spices. Lavender and rosemary. Full-bodied, layered and so beautiful. Great tension and brightness. Crushed stones. A pure cabernet sauvignon. Great definition. Drink or hold.	97
2015	Solari	So much tile and black-tea character on the nose with bark undertones. Full body and finely layered tannins. Focused and bright. A gorgeous finish. This is all about natural beauty. Smooth and intense power. Drink or hold.	97
2015	The Lark	This is a dark and drawing red with iron, rust, sand and blackberry aromas. Full-bodied, extremely deep and dense with incredible intensity and depth. Masses of violets and berries. It goes on for minutes. Superb 2015. Best ever? Release in September 2019. Drink on release and beyond	98