

The Best Napa Cabernet Sauvignon Wine to Buy Right Now

by Sarah Ventiera - February 26, 2024

There's no American wine more iconic than Napa Cab. It all started with the "[Judgment of Paris](#)" in 1976. Shortly after, Time magazine reported on the unprecedented blind tasting by French wine professionals, who favored California Cabernet Sauvignon (and Chardonnay) wines over pedigreed [Bordeaux](#) and [Burgundy](#) wines. In short order, the region's reputation blew up on the international stage.

While the U.S. wine industry has expanded far and wide since those days, with many other American Viticultural Areas (AVAs) also garnering global acclaim, it's still hard to compete with Napa's ever-popular, prestigious bottles. Fortunately, the region's producers have not been resting on their reputational laurels. These world-class winemakers have been working just as hard as ever to create cellar-worthy selections.

"Napa Valley has enjoyed several stand out vintages in the last decade that make [Cabernet](#) and Cabernet-based blends from the region both exciting and satisfying," says [Elaine Chukan Brown](#), Wine Enthusiast's resident Napa Valley reviewer. "The 2021 vintage for Napa Valley is already proving itself a classic. The balance of refined structure with genuine complexity and pleasure represents an ideal in Cabernet Sauvignon and its blending partners."

That's great news, but with decades of vintages on the market from more than 400 different wineries, it can feel like a near-impossible task to narrow down which Napa Cabernet wine to purchase. That's where we come in. From decades-old classics to those recent 2021s, these are the best Napa Cabernet Sauvignons and blends to buy right now.

Larkmead 2015 Salon Red (Napa Valley)

A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Cabernet Franc, this is a tremendous wine, offering grippy red-currant, tobacco and graphite components around a full-bodied core of weight and breadth. Powerful yet elegant, it retains and celebrates much of the Cab Franc character in its unabashed embrace of dried herb, clove and violet. Enjoy 2025–2030.

[98 Points](#) — [Virginie Boone](#)

