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*Stephen Tanzer's*  
INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

**2009 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Helms Vineyard Rutherford**

(\$325) Bright ruby-red. Very ripe but fresh aromas of currant, gingerbread and loam. Lush, sweet and vibrant, with powerful black raspberry fruit complicated by sexy earth tones and spices. Boasts terrific verve for such a rich wine. Finishes with ripe tannins and a large structure, but this is remarkably balanced already.

**94**

**2009 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Hershey Vineyard Howell Mountain  
Napa Valley**

(\$325) Bright ruby-red. Reticent but pure aromas of black fruits, crushed rock and dark chocolate. Dense, rich and seamless, with a deeply mineral character to the black fruit and chocolate flavors. Big, chewy tannins will require bottle aging to harmonize with the wine's layered fruit.

**93(+?)**

**2009 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Lotus Vineyard St. Helena**

(\$325) Good saturated full ruby. Nose initially hints at brooding black fruits, licorice and graphite, but opened with air to show toffee oak, tobacco and captivating violet lift. Seriously deep and sweet, with surprising energy giving the superripe, floral mid-palate lovely vibrancy. Most impressive today on the enveloping black-fruit finish, where the wine's fully ripe tannins spread out horizontally to saturate the palate. A great showing today, but lay this down.

**95**