

vinous

2014 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Helms Vineyard, Rutherford

Dana's 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Helms Vineyard is every bit as beautiful today as it was when I tasted it last from barrel. Soaring and lifted at the outset, but with plenty of depth and supporting tannin, the 2014 is a drop-dead gorgeous beauty. The flavors are bright, focused and intense. The 2014 needs a few years to soften, but it is vivid and remarkably focused, not to mention stunning in tis beauty.

(94-97)

Antonio Galloni (December 2016)

2014 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Lotus Vineyard, Napa Valley

Interestingly, the Cabernet Sauvignon Lotus Vineyard is the 2014 that is most similar to its 2013 counterpart. I suppose that should not be too surprising, as the vineyard is the most consistent of the three single-vineyard sites from the standpoint of soils and aspects. All the classic Lotus signatures - rich, deep fruit and creamy tannins - are very much in evidence. Given its somewhat more mid-weight structure vis-a-vis 2013, I suspect the 2014 will drink well a bit earlier. There is so much to look forward to.

(93-96)

Antonio Galloni (December 2016)

2014 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Hershey Vineyard, Howell Mountain

The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Hershey Vineyard is dense, powerful and very much closed in on itself, with less of the aromatic intensity and power it has shown in the past. There is good depth and density in the glass, but I suspect the wine is simply going through a subdued phase given how the 2014 has shown in the past and how magnificent the other 2014s are today.

97

Antonio Galloni (December 2016)

2014 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Onda, Napa Valley

The 2014 Onda, from Dana's Crystal Springs vineyard, is a very beautiful wine. Bright red stone fruit and lifted, floral aromatics are the two main signatures. At the same time, the 2014 has plenty of depth. Chocolate, raspberry jam, mint and rose petal notes infuse the deep, fleshy finish. This is a striking, modern Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon endowed with real class and pedigree. This is a very serious second wine, if it can be called that.

94

Antonio Galloni (December 2016)