

Dana Estates 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Helms Vineyard, Rutherford

A regal, soaring wine, the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Helms Vineyard is all finesse. Dried cherry, cinnamon, star anise and blood orange add an exotic flair that adds to the wine's beguiling personality. In 2017, the Helms is a bit understated and medium in body, with less of the breadth of the very best years. Even so, it is a gorgeous Cabernet full of allure and potential. I won't be surprised if it is even more compelling in another few years' time.

Drinking window 2028-2042

96+

Antonio Galloni, January 2020

Dana Estates 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Lotus Vineyard, Napa Valley

The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Lotus Vineyard is positively dazzling. The heat of the year seems to have given the Lotus an extra kick of ripeness and sweetness in its tannin that works so well here. Sumptuous and lush, with magnificent balance, the Lotus is stunningly beautiful from the very first taste. Ripe red cherry, red plum, mint, rose petal and licorice build into the creamy, enveloping finish. Stated simply, the 2017 Lotus is shaping up to be one of the wines of the vintage. Wow.

(94-97)

Antonio Galloni, January 2020

Dana Estates 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Hershey Vineyard, Howell Mountain

The 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Hershey Vineyard is shaping up to be truly magnificent. The heat of the year gave the Hershey an extra kick of volume and resonance that comes through in its compelling richness and layers of depth. Inky red/purplish berry fruit, rose petal, dark chocolate, lavender, spice, gravel and mint add layers of aromatic nuance, but more than anything else, the 2017 beautifully captures the natural radiance of the year. Time in the glass brings out tons of Howell Mountain structure and backbone.

(94-97)

Antonio Galloni, January 2020

Dana Estates 2017 Onda Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

The 2017 Onda is plump, juicy and wonderfully inviting. Readers will have a very hard time keeping their hands off this gorgeous, racy Cabernet. Plush fruit, silky tannins and soft curves give the 2017 a wonderful sense of immediacy that is impossible to miss. Dark red cherry, spice, menthol and licorice infuse the 2017 with striking layers of nuance. In this vintage, most of the fruit is from Crystal Springs; there is less Hershey, as the small amount of fruit that was harvested in that site went into the single-vineyard bottling. This is such a beautiful and delicious wine.

93

Antonio Galloni, January 2020