



# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE

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# 30

## Sparkling

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FROM A MASTER MIXOLOGIST  
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# CALIFORNIA RED WINES

## CABERNETS & BLENDS



**95** Flora Springs  
2007 Rutherford  
Hillside Reserve  
Cabernet Sauvignon;  
\$100. An amazingly rich,  
complex and ageworthy  
wine. Made from 100%  
Cabernet grapes, it shows

firm, plush flavors of blackberries and black currants, with sour cherry candy tartness that's clean and piquant in the mouth. But the wine is also very tannic, giving a dry astringency through the finish. Should reward time in the cellar. Best 2012-2018. **Cellar Selection.**



**95** Flora Springs  
2007 St. Helena  
Rennie Reserve  
Cabernet Sauvignon;  
\$100. What a wonderful  
wine. So pure, so fine and  
so Bordeaux-esque, like a  
fine young Margaux that

needs time. Made from 100% Cabernet grapes, it shows classic blackberry and black currant flavors, beautifully oaked, with smooth, polished tannins and a fleshy mouthfeel. A feminine wine, it has great charm now, and should develop in the bottle for many years.



**94** Flora Springs  
Out of Sight  
Vineyard Cabernet  
Sauvignon; \$85.

The tannins are strong in this 100% Cab, giving it a tough astringency, but there's no denying the wealth of blackberries, black currants, violets and cedar that flood the mouth and last through a long, spicy finish. The vineyard is in the collar southern part of the valley, on the east side of Oak Knoll. Give this wine time. 2012-2018. **Cellar Selection.**



**94** Flora Springs  
2007 Holy  
Smoke Vineyard  
Cabernet Sauvignon;  
\$85. The vineyard is in  
Oakville, and the wine,  
which is 100% Cabernet,  
shows classically firm

tannins and Oakville's signature blackberries and black currants. Oak adds fleshy, smoky notes that are perfectly in keeping with the fruit. Very dry, this is a wine you want to cellar. Best after 2012, and will develop in a good cellar for many years afterward. **Cellar Selection.**



**93** Flora Springs  
2007 Wild Boar  
Vineyard Cabernet  
Sauvignon; \$85.

Quite a fine wine, although like flora Springs' other '07 Cabs, it needs time in the cellar to come around. Grown in the Pope Valley section of the eastern Napa, it shows ripe, flashy flavors of blackberries, cherries, and chocolate, but those tannins are tough and hard. You can decant it now, but better to hold until 2011 or so.



**91** Flora Springs  
2007 Trilogy Red  
Wine; \$65.

Made from Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petit Verdot, this is a good, smooth wine that shows its Napa origins in the ripeness of fruit and classy tannins. Floods the mouth with blackberries and oak. There's a certain sharpness that cuts through the richness and asts through the finish, which may limit ageability, so drink soon.

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