



2005 Roy Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

Rating: 94 points

Producer: Roy Estate

From: Napa, North Coast, California, USA

Variety: A Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Red Table wine

Drink: 2008-2028

Source: Wine Advocate #180 (Dec. 2008)

The bottled 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon (90% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Petit Verdot) is even better than the barrel samples tasted last year. Surprisingly soft, but complex, it offers notes of damp earth, black currants, incense, cedar, and spice. Ripe and medium to full-bodied with excellent fruit purity, and charming texture as well as length, it can be consumed now, although its equilibrium and balance suggest it will last for two decades. This 17-acre Soda Canyon site originally planted by Helen Turley and John Wetlaufer has tight 3 x 6 spacing, and produces two wines, a Cabernet Sauvignon and an estate proprietary blend. Proprietors Shirley and Charles Roy have demonstrated courage as well as passion in attempting to craft some of the finest wines to emerge from this area of Napa. Winemaker Philippe Melka brings a French savoir-faire to Napa Valley's gorgeous fruit.

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—Robert Parker