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葡萄酒消费导刊

评论 葡萄酒

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80 款

加州精品酒大品鉴

十
老酒侍酒记

伦敦葡萄酒世界里的
巴比伦塔

史无前例的

加州值得收藏的葡萄酒分级

美国加州酒庄
收购笔记

封面专题

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为值得收藏的 加州葡萄酒分级

用分数这种主观意见还是价格这种客观事实来评判葡萄酒，这是个问题。

文/Charles Curtis MW 译/邵心怡



Charles Curtis MW

WineAlpha创始人，葡萄酒大师。曾在佳士得担任亚洲和美国葡萄酒部主管。葡萄酒作家和记者，出版了《The Original Grand Cru of Burgundy》一书。

关于近几十年葡萄酒的话题讨论，话语权一直被一小群权威的葡萄酒评论家掌握着。然而近年来，这种绝对的权威已经被打破，他们所评判出的分数似乎没有之前那么重要了。当然，葡萄酒爱好者仍然为发现新的爱酒而寻求专业人士的指导，而这篇文章正向大家介绍了一种收藏级加州酒的新分级方式。

从古罗马人将Falernian（一种白葡萄）酒做出区分，到12世纪西多会修士为勃艮第的葡萄园分级，再到1756年庞巴尔侯爵对波特葡萄园进行的分级，葡萄酒的分级不过是老生常谈。这次分级不同于以往的是，我们通过拍卖市场的价格来为加州收藏级酒款分级。这样做的优势在于分级是基于竞拍价格这一客观事实建立的，而非由葡萄酒评论家的主观因素决定。事实上，它与1855波尔多分级有着异曲同工之妙，后者也是基于葡萄酒质量和市场价值来决定分级的。

为了准备以下来的分级，我们计算了2006、2007、2008、2009和2010，这5个年份所有参与竞拍的葡萄酒

的平均价格，这些葡萄酒来自加州的各个产区，也涵盖了加州所有的酿酒葡萄品种。事实上，几乎没有其他州的葡萄酒入选。通过对比竞拍价，我们注意到可以分为以下几个级别：

葡萄酒价格（单瓶）高于500美元

葡萄酒价格（单瓶）在300~500美元之间

葡萄酒价格（单瓶）在200~300美元之间

葡萄酒价格（单瓶）在100~200美元之间

这套分级方法还有要注意的一点是：如果一个酒庄用相同的单品种或多个品种酿造了多款葡萄酒，本排名仅收录其中最顶级（比如说最贵的）的那一款。比如Bond Estates生产了很多可以被列为三级酒庄酒的葡萄酒，但只有Vecina系列被列上名单。而Marcassin有两款酒（Sine Qua Non则有3款酒）上榜，因为它们使用了不同的品种。

运用这种方法，我们为收藏级加州酒进行了分级：

一级庄

单瓶拍卖价格高于500美元

Screaming Eagle	Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 1,868.00
Harlan Estate	Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 601.00
Sine Qua Non	Syrah Blend (various names; all 11 Confessions Vineyard)	\$ 584.00
Sine Qua Non	Grenache Blend (various names; all 11 Confessions Vineyard)	\$ 558.00
Dana Estates	Lotus Vineyard Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 504.00

二级庄

单瓶拍卖价格300~500 美元

Scarecrow	Rutherford Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 487.00
Schrader Cellars	"Old Sparky" Beckstoffer ToKalon Cabernet Sauvignon (Magnum only)	\$ 887.00
Sloan Estate	Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 422.00
Abreu	"Thorevilos" Napa Valley Cabernet Blend Sauvignon	\$ 398.00
Colgin Cellars	IX Estate Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 372.00
Bryant Family Vineyard	Pritchard Hill Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 326.00
Hundred Acre Vineyard	Kayli Morgan Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 310.00

三级庄

单瓶拍卖价格200~300 美元

Dalla Valle Vineyards	Maya Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 287.00
Kapcsandy Family Winery	State Lane Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin	\$ 285.00
Bond	Vecina Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 284.00
Marcassin	Sonoma Coast Marcassin Vineyard Pinot Noir	\$ 270.00
Marcassin	Sonoma Coast Marcassin Vineyard Chardonnay	\$ 264.00
Shafer Vineyards	"Hillside Select" Stags Leap District Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 247.00
Opus One	Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 230.00
Maybach	Materium Oakville Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 221.00
Eisele Vineyard	Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 216.00
Paul Hobbs	Beckstoffer To Kalon Oakville, Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 202.00

四级庄

单瓶拍卖价格100~200 美元

Spottswoode	Estate Grown St. Helena Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 182.00
Dominus Estate	Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 178.00
Kongsgaard	"The Judge" Napa Valley Chardonnay	\$ 169.00
Joseph Phelps	Insignia Napa Valley Red Wine	\$ 168.00
Sine Qua Non	Dry White Rhone Blend (various names and vineyards)	\$ 146.00
Caymus Vineyards	Special Selection Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 144.00
Peter Michael Winery	"Les Pavots" Knights Valley Sonoma County Red Wine	\$ 143.00
Kistler	"Cuvee Catherine" Sonoma Coast Occidental Station Pinot Noir	\$ 134.00
Ridge Vineyards	Monte Bello Santa Cruz Mountains Red Wine	\$ 130.00
Pride Mountain Vineyards	Reserve Sonoma County / Napa County Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 127.72
Kistler	"Cuvee Cathleen" Kistler Vineyard Sonoma Mountain Chardonnay	\$ 134.00
Dunn Vineyards	Howell Mountain Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 118.00
Aubert Wines	Reuling Vineyard Sonoma Coast Chardonnay	\$ 112.00
Peter Michael Winery	Cuvee Indigene Sonoma County Chardonnay	\$ 108.00



德纳酒庄

First Growth 一级庄

Screaming Eagle 啸鹰酒庄

啸鹰酒庄坐落于纳帕谷的橡树村(Oakville),由简·菲利普斯女士(Jean Phillips)在1986年投资建成。该酒庄每年生产600-700箱旗舰款赤霞珠干红。该酒庄生产的酒是目前为止美国最贵的葡萄酒。酒庄葡萄园的核心是种植面积仅0.4公顷的赤霞珠,菲利普斯女士决定将这里生产的葡萄单独酿造。第一个酿酒季始于1992年,由Heidi Peterson Barrett担任酿酒师。整个庄园在1995年的时候被翻新,目前葡萄园面积达到了20公顷,由David Abreu管理。2006年,该酒庄被转售给Stanley Kroenke和Charles Banks,二人又继续将葡萄园扩建了15公顷。Charles Banks于2009年离开了酒庄,现在由Armand de Maigret担任酒庄管理一职;Nick Gislason和Robert Black担任酿酒师,Michel Rolland担任酿酒顾问。

Harlan Estate 哈兰酒庄

哈兰酒庄坐落于纳帕谷的橡树村,位于玛莎葡萄园(Martha's Vineyard)西部,由比尔·哈兰(Bill Harlan)于1984年建成。哈兰购买了97公顷未开发土地,将其中的16公顷种上了葡萄藤。第一个酿酒季始于1990年。酒庄目前由Don Weaver和Bob Levy管理;由Cory Empting担任酿酒师;Michel Rolland担任酿酒顾问。酒庄年产量约在1200-2000箱。



啸鹰酒庄

Sine Qua Non 赛奎农酒庄

酒庄的创建者曼弗雷德·克兰克尔(Manfred Krankl)曾做过餐厅老板,同Mark Peel以及Nancy Silverton一起创办并管理拉斯维加斯著名的餐馆Campanile。经营期间,克兰克尔在和John Alban以及一些当地酿酒师的接触中开始了解酿酒方面的事宜,并于1994年投资了赛奎农酒庄(拉丁英文中“必要条件”的意思)。酒庄使用的酿酒葡萄来自多个葡萄园,并且每年生产的葡萄酒都会使用新的命名。每款酒的酒标图都由克兰克尔进行艺术设计。赛奎农在竞拍会上最昂贵的酒产自11 Confessions Vineyard葡萄园。这是克兰克尔第一个购买的葡萄园,它的第一年榨季始于2001年。11 Confessions葡萄园生产的葡萄也是酿造“额外木桶陈酿葡萄酒”(Extra Barrel Aging)的主要葡萄来源,通常这些酒款的表现都非常出色。赛奎农酒庄的年总生产量大约在3500箱左右。这个酒庄还同时生产一款由罗纳河谷葡萄品种酿制的干白,该款酒被列为四级酒庄酒。

Dana Estates 德纳酒庄

德纳酒庄成立于2005年,然而这个年轻的酒庄却展现了纳帕谷历史悠久的一面。酒庄的葡萄园最初是由德国酿酒师H.W. Helms在1883年建成的。在经历了美国禁酒期的很长一段时间,这个葡萄园在John Livingston和Diane Livingston手中获得了新生,更名为Livingston Moffett。2005年,Livingston Moffett酒庄被韩国商人Hi Sang Lee收购,并命名为德纳酒庄,Dana在梵语里是“慷慨”的意思。Pete Perry担任总经理,Chris Cooney担任酿酒师,Philippe Melka担任酿酒顾问。德纳酒庄最负盛名的是Lotus Vineyard产的赤霞珠,这些葡萄产于纳帕谷东部边缘瓦卡山西侧山坡海拔366米处。

Second Growth 二级庄

Scarecrow 稻草人酒庄

稻草人酒庄是纳帕谷一颗冉冉升起的新星。酒庄的渊源要追溯到1943年,美国米高梅电影制片人,曾拍摄绿野仙踪的J.J. Cohen,获得了罗斯福的79公顷土地,靠近炉边酒庄。J.J. Cohen在其中32公顷种植了葡萄藤,直至1996年,随着他的逝世,酒庄被转售出去。酒庄的大部分资产被弗朗西斯·福特·科波拉(Francis Ford Coppola)收购(他现在拥有着曾经的炉边酒庄),但Cohen的子孙和他的一位合伙人仍保留了一些葡萄园,和部分种植于1945年的葡萄藤。这些葡萄在过去几十年间是酿造纳帕谷最出名的酒的原料,稻草人酒庄也因此名声斐然。现在酒庄的年产量在400-600箱。

Schrader Cellars 施拉德酒庄

酒庄建造者弗雷德·施拉德(Fred Schrader)曾在佛罗里达的那不勒斯做艺术和古董商人,后来与安妮·寇金(Ann Colgin)结婚。二人于1992年成立了寇金酒庄(Colgin Cellars)。五年后,施拉德与夫人离婚,然而婚姻的破裂并未斩断他们对葡萄酒事业的热情。安妮·寇金继续管理着以她名字命名的葡萄园,而弗雷德·施拉德投资了位于纳帕谷



施拉德酒庄

卡里斯托加的施拉德酒庄，并因出产纳帕谷最顶级的赤霞珠葡萄酒而声名鹊起，其中包括了以Beckstoffer To Kalon葡萄园，罗斯福的Beckstoffer Georges III 葡萄园，以及Las Piedras Vineyard葡萄园为原料的葡萄酒。施拉德酒庄刚以6000万美元的价格被美国星座葡萄酒公司收购，但酒庄没有买下任何葡萄园，交易合同里仅包括葡萄园果源、酒庄现有资产，以及8个施拉德酒庄赤霞珠葡萄酒标签的使用权。目前为止，酒庄运营一切照旧。在这段转型过渡期间，弗雷德与他的妻子Carol继续着他们的工作，Thomas Brown也继续担任酿酒师。时间会证明他们是否能够将酒庄的辉煌继续传承下去，甚至更上一层楼，毕竟星座葡萄酒公司拥有着蒙大非酒庄（Robert Mondavi）To Kalon葡萄园很大一部分地产。

Sloan Estate 斯隆酒庄

1997年，来自西雅图的商人斯图尔特·斯隆（Stuart Sloan）在纳帕谷的罗斯福产区开垦了5公顷的斯隆酒庄葡萄园。酒庄很快获得了世人瞩目，并以高价出售葡萄酒，2011年，斯隆将他的酒庄资产卖给了香港投资商Pan Sutong先生。尽管酒庄进行了转让，但工作团队并未变动，目前酒庄酿酒师是Martha

McClellan，酿酒顾问为Michel Rolland，另外葡萄园管理工作由David Abreu公司担任。酒庄年产量在600箱左右。

Abreu Vineyards 艾伯如酒庄

酒庄建立者大卫·艾伯如（David Abreu）正像他所种植的葡萄一样，紧紧扎根于纳帕谷。大卫是土生土长的第三代圣海伦娜（St. Helena）人，他在加利福尼亚大学戴维斯分校（UC Davis）学习葡萄栽培与酿酒技术，在他成立备受关注的大卫·艾伯如葡萄园管理团队之前，他曾在佳慕酒庄（Caymus）工作过。大卫于1980年投资了自己的葡萄园，由Brad Grimes担任酿酒师，而大卫则继续在加州管理着诸多最出名的葡萄园。大卫团队经手管理的葡萄园众多，从位于加州春山

（Spring Mountain）平缓山坡处的马德罗纳葡萄园（Madrona Ranch vineyard），到位于圣海伦娜和豪威尔山之间的托尔维洛斯葡萄园（Thorevilos），后者可以说是大卫团队最高水准的体现。在某些年份，托尔维洛斯葡萄园的年产量仅在500箱左右。

Colgin Cellars 寇金酒庄

正如在施拉德酒庄的介绍中提到的，寇金酒庄在1992年由安妮·寇金和她的丈夫弗雷德·施拉德投资建成。1997年，安妮·寇金和她的现任丈夫Joe Wender购买了特伊卡松山园（Tychson Hills Vineyard）。可能会有少部分人提出争议，但寇金最好的葡萄酒是产自圣海伦娜（St. Helena）普理查德山（Pritchard Hill）九号庄园（IX Estate）的赤霞珠混酿。“九号庄

园”的命名既指葡萄园中的一个区块，又有着安妮和丈夫9月9日结婚纪念日的特殊意义。寇金酒庄的酿酒师是Allison Tauzier，酿酒顾问为Alain Raynaud。葡萄园由David Abreu进行管理，另外寇金还会从大卫·艾伯如的马德罗纳葡萄园采购一些葡萄原料。九号庄园出产的红葡萄酒年产量在350-400箱。



寇金酒庄



布莱恩特家族酒庄

Bryant Family Vineyard 布莱恩特家族酒庄

在圣路易斯的财富经理与艺术品收藏家Donald L. Bryant Jr.先生的投资下, 布莱恩特家族酒庄(Bryant Family Vineyard)于1986年建成。第一批酒产于1992年, 出自酿酒师海伦·特利(Helen Turley)之手, 葡萄原料来自当时圣海伦娜普理查德山新建的葡萄园。这个葡萄园由大卫·艾伯如的团队进行管理。布莱恩特家族酒庄曾以出产优质葡萄酒闻名, 但在2002年, 布莱恩特解雇了酿酒师海伦, 而海伦为拖欠工资而起诉布莱恩特并获得胜诉后, 大众对布莱恩特家族酒庄的热情开始减少。继海伦之后, 酒庄的酿酒工作由著名酿酒师Philippe Melka担任, 之后又由Mark Aubert, Ross Wallace, Helen Keplinger, 和Todd Alexander接手(酿制了2012及2013年份的葡萄酒)。如今, 酒庄的酿酒师是Marc Gagnon, 酿酒顾问为Michel Rolland。酒庄年产量在300-1000箱。

Hundred Acre 百亩酒庄

百亩酒庄由加拿大投资银行家Jayson Woodbridge于2000年建成。这个项目成型的原因是位于圣海伦娜北侧西尔弗拉多小径(Silverado Trail)的4公顷黏土地块。这个地块的土质吸引了葡萄园顾问Jim Barbour的目光, 酿酒顾问Philippe Melka告诉Woodbridge这块土地的重要性正如柏图斯酒庄之于波美侯。就这样, Woodbridge买下了这块土地, 并命名为Kayli Morgan葡萄园, 事实证明这里出产的葡萄酒确实广受欢迎。由于黏土的储水能力非常卓越, 这个葡萄园适宜种植赤霞珠。Melka参与了2001和2002年的酿酒季,

之后就由Woodbridge亲自接手。百亩酒庄的年产量通常可达1000箱。

Third Growth 三级庄

Dalla Valle Vineyards 达拉瓦勒酒庄

达拉瓦勒酒庄是个占地8公顷的酒庄, 它坐落于橡树村的西尔弗拉多小径, 由库斯达·达拉·瓦勒(Gustav Dalla Valle)和直子·达拉·瓦勒(Naoko Dalla Valle)于1982年建成。该酒庄的顶级酒叫Maya, 以同名葡萄园命名。与传统纳帕酒不同, Maya由50%的品丽珠和近乎同样配比的赤霞珠混酿而成。酒庄酿酒师是Andy Erickson, 酿酒顾问是Michel Rolland。酒庄每年生产的Maya酒不到500箱。

Kapcsandy Family Winery 卡布桑迪家族酒庄

卡布桑迪家族酒庄成立于2000年, 投资者罗·卡布桑迪(Lou Kapcsandy)先生做过工程承包商(同时也是职业足球运动员), 他在纳帕的扬特维尔(Yountville)西部购买了这6公顷的State Lane葡萄园。这个历史悠久的葡萄园自1979年, 即建园初期, 就为贝灵哲庄园的私人珍藏赤霞珠提供葡萄原料。在90年代, 葡萄园毁于根瘤蚜侵害, 后于2002年重新种植了赤霞珠等波尔多品种。酒庄出产的第一个年份酒是2004年, 由海伦·特利

担任酿酒师, 之后由纳帕葡萄酒公司的Rob Lawson和拉图古堡的Denis Malbec接手。2016年, Denis Malbec在一场车祸中不幸逝世, 自此由Anthony Arcudi担任酿酒顾问。酒庄生产的正牌葡萄酒的年产量大约在600箱左右。

Bond 邦德酒庄

邦德酒庄是哈兰酒庄原班人马打造的第二个酒庄。需要分清楚的是, 邦德是哈兰酒庄团队的第二个项目, 而非哈兰旗下的副牌酒。与哈兰酒庄不同的是, 邦德酒庄不拥有葡萄园土地资产。而与哈兰酒庄合作的特选葡萄园的土地所有者甚至放弃了对葡萄生长和酿酒的管理权, 由哈兰团队亲自打造他们梦想中的佳酿。担任哈兰酒庄葡萄管理的是Bob Levy, 酿酒师是Cory Empting, Michel Rolland是酿酒顾问。每个葡萄园的面积在3~4公顷, 在它们用于酿造邦德葡萄酒之前的几年, 都是由哈兰酒庄打理的。每个葡萄园年产量都在450~600箱, 在二级市场的售价也比较稳定, 所以这些园子出产的酒都应可被列为三级庄葡萄酒。首先是Melbury葡萄园, 它正对着轩尼诗湖旁的普理查德山。这是酒庄最初的葡萄园, 自1999年起, 它和酒庄附近的Vecina葡萄园一起作为投资组合的一部分。St. Eden葡萄园位于瓦卡山, 自2001年起邦德酒庄开始使用这里生产的葡萄。Pluribus是位于春山海拔335米处的一块



邦德酒庄



土地，自2002年起它开始为邦德酒庄提供原料。而位于春之谷的Quella葡萄园，则在2006年与邦德签订合约。

Marcassin Vineyard 玛尔卡森酒庄

玛尔卡森酒庄是酿酒师海伦·特利（Henlen Turley）与丈夫约翰·韦特劳弗（John Wetlanfer）1990年建立的，次年，他们开始在索诺玛县沿岸种植霞多丽。最初的葡萄园建在靠近太平洋海拔42千米的火山土上，占地仅有4公顷，后来逐步扩建到8公顷。玛尔卡森酒庄的葡萄原料除了来自自家葡萄园，还从Martinelli家族的葡萄园进行收购，不过这个合作已于2008年终止了。Marcassin Upper Barn Chardonnay从1991年开始生产，Marcassin Vineyard Pinot Noir则在1996年首次面世。目前，酒庄自家葡萄园生产的霞多丽和黑皮诺的年产量在1000箱左右。

Shafer Vineyards 思福酒庄

思福酒庄位于鹿跃葡萄酒产区（Stag's Leap），19世纪，Jacob Ohl 和 C. H. Linderman在这片土地上种下了第一批葡萄苗。经年来，酒庄表现出了惊人的生命力，甚至靠卖葡萄给自酿葡萄酒爱好者度过了美国禁酒时期。1972年，思福家族买下了现在拥有的大部分的葡萄园。1978年，思福酒庄出

产了第一批赤霞珠葡萄酒，1983年，他们的顶级酒Hillside Select Cabernet面世。这款受到高度赞誉的赤霞珠产自鹿跃产区思福葡萄园中的山边葡萄园，包括Sunspot, John's Upper Seven, Venado Illegal和Firebreak。目前酒庄由Doug Shafer运营，Elias Fernandez担任酿酒师。

Opus One 作品一号酒庄

作品一号酒庄是罗伯特·蒙大菲（Robert Mondavi）和菲利普·罗斯柴尔德男爵（Philippine de Rothschild）于1978年投资建立的，次年酒庄出产了第一批年份酒，1982年之前它都被称为“纳帕梅多克”。1980年，蒙大菲将传奇葡萄园To Kalon的14公顷园子卖给了这个新酒庄，从此酒庄不断繁荣起来。2004年蒙大菲酒庄被星座集团收购，拉菲罗斯柴尔德通过商议获得了作品一号酒庄的管理权。酒庄现有超过69公顷的葡萄园，年产量在25000箱左右。值得一提的是，酒庄有近一半的葡萄酒用于出口，这在同等规模的酒庄里是非常罕见的。

Maybach Family Vineyards 迈巴赫酒庄

迈巴赫一直以来就是汽车界的传奇，这个名字后来也成为了顶级葡萄酒的代表。迈巴赫

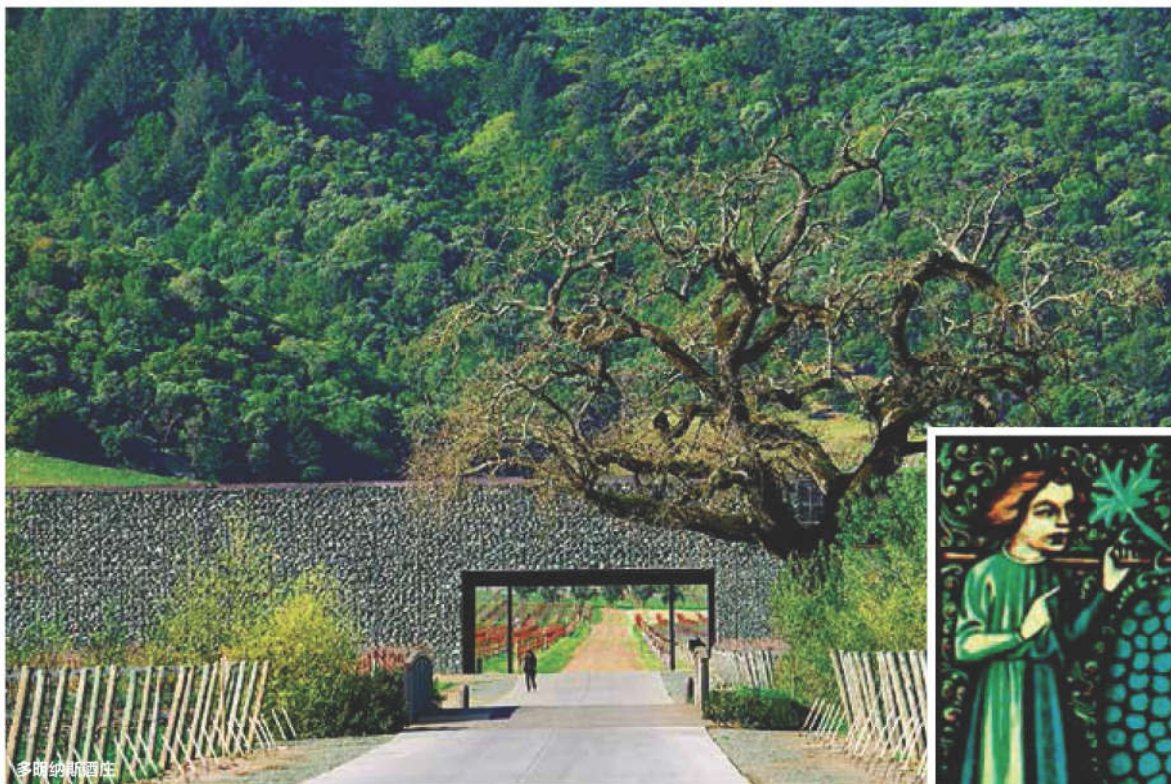
酒庄成立于2004年，酿造Materium酒款的葡萄原料来自橡树村的Weitz葡萄园。酒庄现任酿酒师是Thomas Brown，酒庄年产量不到500箱。

Eisele Vineyard Estate 艾泽勒酒庄

1990年，巴特（Bart）和达芙妮·阿罗珠（Daphne Araujo）夫妇投资成立了阿罗珠酒庄Araujo Estate，2013年，酒庄被拉图城堡（Château Latour）买下并于2016年更名为Eisele Vineyard Estate。酒庄坐落在纳帕谷以北的卡里斯托加，并使用生物动力法进行葡萄园管理。这个葡萄园在纳帕的历史可以追溯到19世纪80年代，而到20世纪60年代，葡萄园开始种植赤霞珠。酒庄现在的名字是以Milt 和Barbara Eisele夫妇的姓氏命名的。酒庄葡萄园为许多传奇葡萄酒提供葡萄原料，包括Ridge酒庄1971年份的酒，还有Joseph Phelps在七八十年代酿的酒。酒庄现在生产的顶级赤霞珠年产量约在2000箱。

Paul Hobbs Beckstoffer To Kalon 宝赫斯酒庄喀龙园

位于橡树村的To Kalon葡萄园是H.W.Crabb在1868年开始种植的。直至1891年，他先后三次共购买了193公顷的土地。随着时间的变迁，土地所有权已被多次转让，现在这片土地已被划分给众多投资者。尽管如此，土地所有权还是较为集中的：星座公司（拥有Robert Mondavi To Kalon葡萄园的长期土地所有权）占有最大一块地产（包括To Kalon的商标使用权），即130公顷；葡萄园种植者Andy Beckstoffer拥有36公顷；作品一号酒庄拥有14公顷，并与其余19公顷土地签订了长期合约。另外两个土地所有者也合购了共计16公顷的土地，但他们未获得To Kalon的商标/名字使用权。To Kalon为纳帕地区的许多传奇酒提供葡萄原料，但很少有能像Beckstoffer一样将To Kalon的品质做到极致的，而Beckstoffer并不生产葡萄酒。由于受到根瘤蚜病的侵害，Beckstoffer不得不在1994年对葡萄园进行整治并重新种植，他用心呵护着每一株葡萄，正如他非常珍视To Kalon这个名字一样。在2002年与Mondavi就“使用To Kalon作为地理标志，



而非仅仅是产品名”的诉讼中, Beckstoffer 获得胜诉。现在, Beckstoffer 为诸多生产商提供葡萄原料, 当然这一特权的代价是每个生产商要向Beckstoffer支付每公顷葡萄至少\$45000美元的费用。在他的这些客户中, 几乎没人能与Paul Hobbs齐名。Hobbs在Robert Mondavi, Opus One和Simi酒庄工作后, 于1991年成立了以他自己名字命名的酒庄。

Fourth Growth 四级庄

Spottswoode 斯勃兹伍德酒庄

斯勃兹伍德酒庄是另一个历史悠久的纳帕酒庄: 第一个葡萄园在George Schonewald的管理下于1882年开始种植葡萄; 1910年, 它被命名为斯勃兹伍德 (Spottswoode)。酒庄坐落在Mayacamas mountains山脉下的圣海伦娜。这个16公顷的葡萄园种植的都是波尔多葡萄品种, 其中以霞珠为主, 葡萄园自1992年起开始实行有机种植。

Dominus Estate 多明纳斯酒庄

多明纳斯酒庄所拥有的葡萄园是纳帕最古老的葡萄园之一: 1836年, 扬特维尔 (Yountville) 的建立者George Yount在这里种下了第一批葡萄。在接下来的180年间, 这个资产几经转手, 1946年的时候, 它曾被纳帕传奇的 (Inglenook的拥有者) John Daniel Jr. 买下。1982年, 他的女儿们和他的继承人成为了柏图斯堡的经理Christian Moueix的合伙人。Moueix为这个资产命名为Dominus, 并在1996年, 将第二款酒的名字命名为Napanook。Dominus第一批年份酒出产于1983年。1995年, Daniel的女儿们将她们的股份卖给了Moueix, 从此, Moueix成为了唯一的资产拥有者。这个50公顷的葡萄园每年出产的优质葡萄酒在3000-5000箱不等。

Kongsgaard 康斯卡德酒庄

约翰·康斯卡德是位有着长期酿酒经验和丰富故事的酿酒师。他曾在UC Davis求学, 70年代在鹿跃当学徒, 后来因为他在Newton Vineyards管理的Unfiltered Chardonnay而成为杰出人才。他以酿造顶

级白葡萄酒而闻名, 而这些成就都是他在Atlas Peak自己酒庄里积累出来的。他所酿造的“The Judge”霞多丽 (以他父亲名字命名) 的原料来自他自己拥有的Stonecrest Vineyard和其余两个在Carneros的葡萄园。他的酿酒技术包括了发酵前氧化、使用野生菌种发酵, 以及延长桶中陈酿时间。当然这些技术成就了独一无二的佳酿。

Joseph Phelps Vineyards 约瑟夫·菲尔普斯庄园

约瑟夫·菲尔普斯在1973年投资了他的纳帕谷酒庄, 酒庄建设很成功, 如今它依然是一个家族拥有酒庄——这在纳帕谷是比较罕见的。菲尔普斯在1974年决定生产一款顶级酒, 并将其命名为徽章 (Insignia)。第一批年份酒的葡萄原料来自鹿跃产区, 1976年的葡萄原料则来自Eisele Vineyard。虽然葡萄

原料的来源一直在变动,酒庄的名声却未曾有过动摇。自2004年起,葡萄原料统一由酒庄提供;并由Ashley Hepworth担任酿酒师。徽章的年产量在15000箱左右。

Caymus Vineyards 佳慕酒园

佳慕酒园作为酒庄成立于1972年,但是Wagner家族早在20世纪初期就开始种植酿酒葡萄了。在佳慕酒园酒庄成立前,葡萄园的葡萄一直销售给其他生产商,Wagner家族在20世纪40年代的时候购买30公顷的顶级葡萄园,坐落于后来的罗斯福产区。在酒庄建立后不久,Randy Dunn被聘为酿酒师,并有了之后的“佳慕特选(Caymus Special Selection)”。这些用最佳橡木桶进行陈酿的特选赤霞珠不是每年都生产,但它们的年产量能达到25000箱左右。

Peter Michael Winery 彼特麦克酒庄

英国商人彼特·麦克爵士(Sir Peter Michael)在1982年在索诺玛骑士山谷投资建立了他的同名酒庄。海伦·特利酿造了第一批酒;之后Mark Aubert曾担任过酿酒师,如今则由Nicholas Morlet担任。彼特麦克酒庄不仅仅立足于骑士山谷,它生产着大量不同类型的葡萄酒,红葡萄酒与白葡萄酒都有,而它最出名的作品是Les Pavots Cabernet,这款混酿以赤霞珠为主,这些葡萄种植于1989-1999年。紧随其后的是Cuvée

Indigène Chardonnay,它可能是酒庄最出名的白葡萄酒。

Kistler Vineyards 吉斯特勒酒庄

吉斯特勒酒庄是史蒂夫·吉斯特勒于1978年成立的,他目前仍担任着这个家族企业酿酒与种植管理的职务。吉斯特勒在索诺玛县生产着众多系列的霞多丽与黑皮诺。其中,他家的霞多丽最为出名;Cuvée Cathleen Chardonnay的葡萄原料就来自吉斯特勒葡萄园。当然,酒庄生产的黑皮诺也是代表性佳酿。这些酒曾使用吉斯特勒的商标,然而2011年,史蒂夫·吉斯特勒购买了新酒庄Occidental,这里只生产黑皮诺,包括名声斐然的Cuvée Catherine Pinot Noir。

Ridge Vineyards 山脊酒庄

1962年由Paul Draper成立的山脊酒庄是加州酒庄的杰出代表。酒庄最初坐落在旧金山南部Santa Cruz的Monte Bello山脊上,这里的葡萄种植于19世纪后期。这里的高海拔以及凉爽的海风,为孕育绝佳赤霞珠提供了条件。山脊酒庄生产的仙粉黛也非常出名,当然还有一些混酿红葡萄酒(在索诺玛县的Lytton Springs生产),其中以Monte Bello为最佳。1971年,在Steven Spurrier主持的著名“巴黎盲品”中,Monte Bello脱颖而出,从此美名远播。Monte Bello的酿酒师如今是Eric Baugher。这款酒现在年产量约在3000箱。

Pride Mountain Vineyards 傲山酒庄

傲山酒庄于19世纪建在Summit Ranch山脊上,它位于Mayacamas山脉最高峰春山区(Spring Mountain)上,这里海拔2100米,并位于浓雾线上方。关于第一个葡萄园的记录很少,但种植时间可追溯到1869年。现今,酒庄95公顷的土地有34公顷被用于葡萄种植。由于酒庄的葡萄园的位置跨越了山脊(就是如今划分纳帕谷和索诺玛县的那条线),酒标上必须标明每个产区对应的葡萄来源的百分比。酒庄的代表作品是陈酿赤霞珠。葡萄来自1982年酒庄自己种植的无灌溉葡萄园。这些酒由Sally Johnson酿制,陈酿赤霞珠的年产量在1000到2000箱。

Dunn Vineyards 邓恩酒庄

兰迪·邓恩(Randy Dunn)首次为人所知还是在1975-1985年他为佳慕酒园担任酿酒师的时候。虽然1979年,他和妻子在Howell Mountain投资了邓恩酒庄,这个标志性的酒庄却发展得比较缓慢。兰迪·邓恩用了几年时间才辞去他在佳慕酒园的工作,并用了更长的时间去整合出产Dunn Howell Mountain Cabernet的几个葡萄园。邓恩家族现在在纳帕谷拥有81公顷的资产,其中14公顷用于种植葡萄。酒庄的核心是1972年建成的Trailer Vineyard,因为当时在建造葡萄园和住宅的时候,邓恩一家人曾住在拖车(trailer)里。在邓恩家旁边的Lake Vineyard是1999年被买下的。如今,邓恩一家还拥有其他葡萄园,并签署了长期合同以确保Howell Mountain葡萄的原料供给。Howell Mountain这款顶级酒的年产量自早年的400箱已增长到如今的近2500箱。

Aubert Wines 奥博特酒庄

Aubert Wines是马克·奥博特(Mark Aubert)和他的妻子在2000年建立的。酒庄位于纳帕谷北侧的卡里斯托加。奥博特在纳帕的酿酒师生涯漫长而辉煌,他为彼特麦克酒庄、寇金酒庄,还有其他很多项目酿酒,包括Sloan和Bryant家族。多数奥博特旗下的酒都标明了来源,包括在索诺玛的1公顷葡萄园,那里的葡萄来源包括索诺玛县沿岸,卡内洛斯靠近纳帕的一侧,索诺玛的俄罗斯河谷以及罗斯福。



傲山酒庄

Collectible California Wine Classification

Opinions about wine in recent decades were often dictated by a relatively small coterie of powerful wine critics. In recent years, however, has become increasingly apparent that the era of the critic as king-maker is over, and the importance of the numerical ratings that they doled out has dwindled. Of course, wine lovers will inevitably still search for guidance when seeking out new wines, and this article proposes a new approach for classifying the collectible wines of California.

From ancient Roman distinctions between types of Falernian to the Cistercian monk's classification of the vineyards of Burgundy in the 12th Century, to the Marquis de Pombal's ranking of the vineyards of Port vineyards in 1756, wine classifications are far from new. What is new here is the use of the prices of the auction market to create a classification for collectible California wine. The advantage of this approach is that it uses the objective basis of actual sales results rather than the subjective rating by a critic to judge the wines. In essence, it reverts back to the basis of the 1855 classification of Bordeaux wines in that it accepts the market valuation of a wine as a measure, if not of quality, then of success.

To prepare the classification that follows, we averaged the average price¹ of all sales at auction for the vintages 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, researching a number of wines including wines produced in all regions and created from all grape varieties from California. In truth, few if any from other states would qualify. Comparing prices, we noticed that there were logical price breaks at the following levels:

Wines that cost more than US\$ 500 per bottle

Wines that cost between US\$ 300 – 500 per bottle

Wines that cost between US\$ 200 - \$300 per bottle

Wines that cost between US\$ 100 - \$200 per bottle

A final note on methodology: if a winery produced more than one wine from the same grape variety or blend only the top wine (i.e. the most expensive) was included. For example, Bond Estates include a number of wines that could all be classified as third growths, but only Vecina is listed, while Marcassin has two wines (and Sine Qua Non three) because they are different varieties.

Using this method, we have produced the following classification of collectible California wines:

[Insert table here]

First Growth

Screaming Eagle

Located in the Oakville AVA of Napa Valley, Screaming Eagle was founded in 1986 by Jean Phillips. The estate produces 600 – 700 cases of its flagship Cabernet Sauvignon each year. The wines are by far the most expensive produced in America. The heart of the vineyard was one acre of Cabernet Sauvignon, which Phillips decided to vinify separately. The inaugural vintage was 1992, produced by Heidi Peterson Barrett. The entire estate was replanted in 1995, and today the vineyard is 48.21 acres, which are

¹ "Average price" is the average of the average of the auction price (all transactions 2005 - 2016) for all five vintages from 2006 - 2010, inclusive of buyer's premium and expressed in US\$, as given by the website www.WineMarketJournal.com on 22 March 2017 and rounded to the nearest dollar.

managed by David Abreu. The winery was sold in 2006 to Stanley Kroenke and Charles Banks, who initiated a second replanting of 36 acres. Banks left the winery in 2009 and today Armand de Maigret is the Estate Manager; Nick Gislason and Robert Black are the wine makers, and Michel Rolland is a consulting enologist.

Harlan Estate

Harlan Estate, located in Napa Valley's Oakville subdistrict west of Martha's Vineyard, was founded in 1984 by Bill Harlan. Harlan bought 240 acres of undeveloped property and planted 40 acres to vine. The first vintage was in 1990. The estate is managed by Don Weaver and Bob Levy; Cory Empting is the winemaker, and Michel Rolland is the consulting enologist. Annual production can range from 1,200 – 2,000 cases each year.

Sine Qua Non

Manfred Krankl began as a restaurateur, working alongside Mark Peel and Nancy Silverton to found and manage the famed Los Angeles restaurant Campanile. Krankl began to experiment with winemaking in conjunction with John Alban and other local winemakers, and founded Sine Qua Non (Latin for "But for this, nothing") in 1994. The wines are produced from grapes sourced from a variety of vineyards, and the fanciful names change each year. Each wine is decorated with artwork by Krankl. The most valuable wines at auction tend to be those from the 11 Confessions Vineyard. This is the first vineyard purchased by the Krankls; the first vintage was 2001. 11 Confessions also serves as the source for most of the fruit used in the "Extra Barrel Aging" or EBA wines, which also tend to attract a premium. Annual production is an average of 3,500 cases per year across all types. The estate also produces a dry white blend from Rhône Valley grape varieties that qualifies as a fourth growth.

Dana Estates

Dana Estates was founded as recently as 2005, yet it occupies a very historical portion of the Napa Valley. The site of the vineyard was first planted by German winemaker H.W. Helms in 1883. Long after Prohibition, the vineyard was revived by John and Diane Livingston in the guise of Livingston Moffett Winery. In 2005, Livingston Moffett was sold to Korean businessman Hi Sang Lee, who re-christened it Dana Estates, from the Sanskrit word for "the Spirit of Generosity." Pete Perry is the General Manager, Chris Cooney is the winemaker, and the consulting enologist is Philippe Melka. The most renowned wine from Dana is the Lotus Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, produced at 1,200 feet elevation on the west-facing slopes of the Vaca Mountains on Napa's eastern edge.

Second Growth

Scarecrow

Scarecrow is a new Napa winery an interesting pedigree. The origins of the estate go back to 1943 when J.J. Cohen, the MGM producer who made The Wizard of Oz, acquired 195 acres in Rutherford next to the Inglenook estate. He planted 80 acres to vines, and upon his passing in 1996 the estate was sold. Much of the property was purchased by Francis Ford Coppola (who now owns what used to be Inglenook), but Cohen's grandson and a partner retained some vineyards, including some of the original 1945 stock. This

is fruit that went into many of the most famous Napa wines of previous decades, and Scarecrow has been equally successful. Annual production averages 400 – 600 cases.

Schrader Cellars

Fred Schrader began as an art and antiques dealer in Naples, Florida who was married to Ann Colgin. The two started Colgin Cellars (see below) in 1992. Schrader and Colgin divorced in 1997, but that was scarcely the end of the wine business for either of them. While Ann Colgin continues at the helm of her eponymous vineyard, Fred Schrader went on to found Schrader Cellars in Calistoga, where he produced some of Napa's most coveted Cabernets, including bottlings from Beckstoffer To Kalon, Beckstoffer Georges III in Rutherford and Las Piedras Vineyard. Schrader Cellars has just been sold to Constellation Brands for \$60 million, yet the deal included just the vineyard sourcing, current inventories and the rights to eight Schrader Cabernet labels since Schrader Cellars did not own any vineyards. For now, nothing has changed. Fred and his wife Carol will stay on during the transition, and Thomas Brown will continue to make the wines. Time will tell whether they also retain their cachet, but hopes run high, as Constellation is already the proprietor of a large chunk of the To Kalon vineyard through its ownership of Robert Mondavi.

Sloan Estate

Seattle-based businessman Stuart Sloan planted the 13 acres of Sloan Estate vineyard in Napa Valley's Rutherford AVA in 1997. After notable success garnered both critical attention and high prices, Sloan sold his property in 2011 to Hong Kong based investor Pan Sutong, Throughout the transition, however, the team at Sloan has remained constant, with the winemaking done by Martha McClellan under the tutelage of consulting enologist Michel Rolland, and the vineyards managed by David Abreu's firm. The average annual production is around 600 cases.

Abreu Vineyards

David Abreu is as firmly rooted in Napa Valley as any of his vines. The third-generation native of St. Helena studied wine making and grape growing at UC Davis and cut his teeth at Caymus prior to founding his highly regarded firm David Abreu Vineyard Management. He founded his own vineyard in 1980, with Brad Grimes making the wine, but he has continued all along to manage some of the most famous vineyards in California. They began with fruit from the Madrona Ranch vineyard on the lower slopes of Spring Mountain, but achieved arguably their greatest results with the Thorevilos vineyard, located between the St. Helena and Howell Mountain AVAs. In some vintages as little as 500 cases of Thorevilos is produced.

Colgin Cellars

As noted in the paragraph on Schrader, Colgin was founded by Ann Colgin and Fred Schrader as Colgin Schrader Cellars in 1992. In the early years of the property, fruit from the Lamb Vineyard was fermented at a vintner's co-operative. In 1997, Ann Colgin and her new husband Joe Wender purchased the Tychson Hills Vineyard. Few would argue, however, that the greatest wine from Colgin is the Cabernet-dominant Blend from IX Estate on St. Helena's commanding Pritchard Hill. The name ("the Nine Estate") refers to one of the vineyard blocks as well as to the September 9th anniversary of Colgin and Wenders. The wines are produced by Allison Tauziet with the guidance of enologist Alain Raynaud.

David Abreu manages the vineyards, with Colgin sourcing some fruit from Abreu's Madrona Ranch site. Average production of the IX Estate red is 350 – 400 cases.

Bryant Family Vineyard

Bryant Family Vineyard was founded by St. Louis based wealth manager and art collector Donald L. Bryant Jr. in 1986. The first vintage was produced in 1992 by winemaker Helen Turley with fruit from the newly-planted vineyard on Pritchard Hill in St. Helena. David Abreu's company handles the management of the vineyard. The wines came to notice initially for their quality; later publicity was less favorable to Bryant when he fired Helen Turley and she sued for back wages, emerging victorious from the suit in 2002. Helen Turley was followed by noted consultant Philippe Melka, who was followed by Mark Aubert, Ross Wallace, Helen Keplinger, and Todd Alexander, who made the 2012 and 2013 vintages. Today the wine are made by Marc Gagnon working with consulting enologist Michel Rolland. Annual production can average anywhere between 300 – 1,000 cases.

Hundred Acre

Hundred Acre was founded in 2000 by Canadian investment banker Jayson Woodbridge. The original raison d'être for the project was a 10-acre site with clay soils, located off the Silverado Trail north of St. Helena. Vineyard consultant Jim Barbour brought the site to his attention, and winemaking consultant Philippe Melka told Woodbridge that the site resembled the soils of Pétrus in Pomerol. Woodbridge purchased the site, which he named the Kayli Morgan vineyard, which has become his most sought-after wine. In spite of heavy clay soils that hold abundant water, the vineyard is planted predominately to Cabernet Sauvignon. Melka advised the winemaking in 2001 and 2002, but since then Woodbridge has taken over the reins himself. Annual production can average up to 1,000 cases.

Third Growth

Dalla Valle Vineyards

Dalle Valle is the 21-acre Oakville property located above the Silverado Trail that was founded by Gustav and Naoko Dalla Valle in 1982. The top wine from this estate is called Maya, named for a vineyard of the same name. Uncharacteristically for Napa wines, Maya is typically a blend of nearly 50% Cabernet Franc with approximately equal proportions of Cabernet Sauvignon. The wines are produced by winemaker Andy Erickson with the assistance of consulting enologist Michel Rolland. Less than 500 cases of Maya are produced in an average year.

Kapcsandy Family Winery

Kapcsandy winery was founded by former general contractor (and professional soccer player) Lou Kapcsandy in 2000 when he purchased the 15.5-acre State Lane Vineyard east of Yountville. This historic vineyard originally served as the foundation for Beringer's Private Reserve Cabernet almost from its inception in 1979. Destroyed by phylloxera in the '90s, it was replanted in 2002 to a Cabernet-dominant blend of Bordeaux varietals. The first vintage (2004) was produced by Helen Turley, and subsequent vintages by Rob Lawson of the Napa Wine Company, who worked with Denis Malbec of Chateau Latour to handle the winemaking. Following Malbec's death in an auto accident in 2016,

Anthony Arcudi was named winemaking consultant. Average production of the Grand Vin is about 600 cases.

Bond

Bond Estates is a second collaboration of the team at Harlan Estate. It is important to distinguish the fact that it is a second collaboration but not a second wine of Harlan. Unlike Harlan Estate, none of the vineyards produced at Bond are owned by the winery. Rather, the owners of specially-selected vineyard sites work with the team at Harlan, ceding control of grape growing and wine making while the Harlan team fashions the wines according to their vision. As at Harlan, the director of winegrowing is Bob Levy; Cory Empting makes the wines, and Michel Rolland is the consulting enologist. Each of these vineyards is 7 – 11 acres, and the Harlan team typically farms them for several years before they are integrated into Bond. Production of each vineyard is usually 450 – 600 cases each, and pricing is fairly consistent in the secondary market, so any one of these bottlings may be considered a third growth. The first of the sites is Melbury, located opposite Pritchard Hill near Lake Hennessey. This is the original vineyard, and has been part of the portfolio since 1999, along with Vecina, a site in Oakville near the winery. St. Eden, located in the Vaca Mountains, has been a part of Bond since 2001. Pluribus is a Spring Mountain site located at 1,100 feet elevation that has been a part of Bond since 2002, and Quella, in Spring Valley, is the most recently introduced, in 2006.

Marcassin Vineyard

Helen Turley and John Wetlaufer founded Marcassin in 1990 and began to plant their Sonoma Coast site with Chardonnay in 1991. The original vineyard was 10 acres, which has been expanded over time to 20, planted in volcanic soils lying at 1,400 feet elevation very near the Pacific Ocean. In addition to the fruit from The Marcassin Vineyard, wines were originally made from fruit sourced from vineyards owned by the Martinelli family as well, although this ended in 2008. The first vintage of Marcassin Upper Barn Chardonnay was the 1991, and Pinot Noir was added in 1996. The winery now produces about 1,000 cases each of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from the Marcassin vineyard yearly.

Shafer Vineyards

The Stag's Leap site that is today Shafer vineyards was first planted to vines in the 19th century by Jacob Ohl and C. H. Linderman. Over the years, the winery has proved remarkably resilient, even surviving prohibition while growing grapes by selling them to home winemakers. The Shafer family purchased a large parcel that contained these original vineyards in 1972. The first vintage of Shafer Cabernet was produced in 1978, and the first vintage of their signature Hillside Select Cabernet was produced in 1983. This highly regarded Cabernet is produced from hillside vineyards in the Shafer Stags Leap holdings, including the Sunspot, John's Upper Seven, Venado Illegal and Firebreak sites. The winery today is run by Doug Shafter, with Elias Fernandez making the wines.

Opus One

Opus One was founded in 1978 by Robert Mondavi and Philippine de Rothschild and the first vintage appeared the following year, although it was called napamedoc until 1982. The vineyard "endowment" came in 1980, when Mondavi sold 35 acres of the legendary To Kalon vineyard to the new property. The brand flourished, and when Mondavi was sold to Constellation in 2004, Domaines Baron de Rothschild negotiated for control of the property. The estate now has more than 170 acres under vine, and the

production can average 25,000 cases per vintage. It is nearly unique among wines of this level that nearly 50% of the production is exported

Maybach

Maybach has long been associated with automotive excellence, and for less time with winemaking excellence. The property was founded in 2004 and the fruit for the flagship Materium bottling comes from the Weitz Vineyard in Oakville. The winemaker is Thomas Brown, who produces on average less than 500 cases of wine each year.

Eisele Vineyard Estate

Founded in 1990 by Bart and Daphne Araujo, this winery (originally called Araujo Estate) was purchased in 2013 by Château Latour and renamed Eisele Vineyard in 2016. Located at the northern end of Napa Valley in Calistoga, the Eisele Vineyard Estate is biodynamically farmed. The Eisele Vineyard has a long history in Napa viticulture – it was originally planted in the 1880s. By the 1960s it had been replanted to Cabernet Sauvignon. The winery was named after Milt and Barbara Eisele. Their vineyard was the source for many legendary wines, including a 1971 from Ridge and several vintages in the '70s and '80s produced by Joseph Phelps. Annual production of the top Eisele Vineyard Cabernet averages 2,000 cases.

Paul Hobbs Beckstoffer To Kalon

The To Kalon vineyard in Oakville was first planted in 1868 by H.W. Crabb. He had purchased a total of 478 acres by 1891 in a series of three transactions. Over the years it changed hands a number of times and has been split between various owners, but today the ownership is fairly concentrated:

Constellation Brands (who own longtime To Kalon proprietor Robert Mondavi) owns the majority of the vineyard with 322 acres (as well as the trademark of the name); grower Andy Beckstoffer owns 89 acres, and Opus One owns 35 acres and has a long term lease on another 48. Two small proprietors also own a combined total of 40 acres as well but are not able to use the name. The property has produced fruit for many of the legendary wines of the Napa Valley, but few have capitalized on the quality of To Kalon as effectively as Beckstoffer, who makes no wine himself. He replanted his portion of the vineyard in 1994 when it succumbed to phylloxera, and has worked assiduously to protect the quality of the fruit as well as the value of the name. He won the suit he brought against Mondavi in 2002 to use the name as a geographic indication (rather than a brand name), and now sells fruit to a score of different producers, each of whom pay a minimum of \$45,000 per acre for the privilege. Of all of his customers, few are as renowned as Paul Hobbs. Hobbs founded his eponymous winery in 1991, after having worked at Robert Mondavi, Opus One and Simi.

Fourth Growth

Spottswode

Spottswode is another historic Napa property: the first vineyard was planted to grapes in 1882 by George Schonewald; it received the name Spottswode in 1910. The property is located in St. Helena at the base of the Mayacamas mountains. The 40-acre vineyard is planted to Bordeaux varietals and dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, and has been organically farmed since 1992.

Dominus Estate

Dominus Estate utilizes one of the most historic vineyard sites in Napa: the original Napanook vineyard first planted in 1836 by George Yount, founder of Yountville. The property traded hands a number of times through the intervening 180 years, but it was purchased in 1946 by Napa legend (and Inglenook owner) John Daniel Jr. In 1982, his daughters and heirs entered a partnership with Christian Moueix, the manager of Pomerol legend Pétrus. Moueix christened the property Dominus (and chose Napanook as the name of the second wine in 1996). The first vintage of Dominus was 1983. Daniel's daughters sold their shares to Moueix in 1995 and he became the sole owner. The 124-acre vineyard can produce anywhere from 3,000 – 5,000 cases of the grand vin.

Kongsgaard

John Kongsgaard has a long and storied career as a winemaker. He studied winemaking at UC Davis in the '70s, apprenticed at Stag's Leap, and then came to national prominence for his work with unfiltered Chardonnay at Newton Vineyards. His ascendancy as a wizard of white wine was completed at his own property, based on Atlas Peak. The vineyard sources for his Chardonnay "The Judge" (named for his father) include his own Stonecrest Vineyard and two sources in Carneros. His techniques include intentional oxidation of the grape juice prior to fermentation, the use of wild yeast, and extended barrel aging. The results are spectacular and distinctively individual.

Insignia

Joseph Phelps founded his Napa Valley winery in 1973 after a successful career in construction and it remains a family owned property today – a relative rarity in Napa Valley. He had the idea to create in 1974 a signature wine which he called Insignia. The debut vintage was sourced from the Stags Leap District, while the 1976 came from the Eisele Vineyard. Although the vineyard sourcing has changed over the years, the wine has maintained a strong reputation. Since 2004, the fruit comes exclusively from sources owned by the winery; the wines are made by Ashley Hepworth. Production of Insignia averages 15,000 cases per year.

Caymus Vineyards

Caymus was founded as a winery in 1972, but the Wagner family has produced wine grapes in Rutherford since the early years of the 20th century. Although the fruit was sold off to other producers until Caymus was founded, the family was able in the 1940s to purchase 73 acres of top quality vineyards in what would become Rutherford AVA. Shortly after the establishment of Caymus Vineyards, Randy Dunn was hired as winemaker and the iconic "Caymus Special Selection" was developed. This special selection of the best barrels of Cabernet is not produced every year, but when it is production can average 25,000 cases.

Peter Michael

English businessman Sir Peter Michael founded his eponymous winery in 1982 with an initial purchase of property in Sonoma County's Knights Valley. Helen Turley produced the first wines; later these duties were assumed by Mark Aubert and today they are made by Nicholas Morlet. Peter Michael has expanded far beyond its Knights Valley roots and produces a wide range of wines, both red and white,

but the most popular bottling on secondary remains the flagship Les Pavots Cabernet blend from the vineyard, dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, that was planted between 1989 – 1999. Close behind comes the Cuvée Indigène Chardonnay, perhaps the most sought-after of the white offerings from Peter Michael.

Kistler Vineyards

Kistler Vineyards was founded in 1978 by Steve Kistler, who still oversees both the winemaking and grape growing in this family-held operation. Kistler produces a number of different bottlings of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from Sonoma County sources. They are very well-known for their Chardonnay; the Cuvée Cathleen Chardonnay is produced from one specific block within the Kistler Vineyard. Kistler Vineyards also produces top quality Pinot Noir. These had been bottled under the Kistler label, but from the 2011 vintage he put the finishing touches on a new winery called Occidental, which will produce Pinot Noir exclusively, including the widely heralded Cuvée Catherine Pinot Noir from this site.

Ridge Vineyards

Founded in 1962 by Paul Draper, Ridge is an iconic California presence. The original winery is on Monte Bello Ridge outside of Santa Cruz, south of San Francisco, where grapes had been planted since the late 19th century. This high-elevation site, exposed to cool ocean breezes, produces a superb Cabernet Sauvignon. While Ridge is also known for a range of Zinfandels and red wine blends (produced at the Lytton Springs facility in Sonoma County) Monte Bello remains the top of the range. It has been famous since 1971 when it was one of the stars of Steven Spurrier's famed "Judgement of Paris" tasting. The winemaking of Monte Bello today is in the hands of Eric Baugher. The production averages 3,000 cases per year.

Pride Mountain Vineyards

Pride Mountain Vineyards is built on the site of a 19th century winery called Summit Ranch, located on Spring Mountain at the peak of the Mayacamas above the fog line at elevations up to 2,100 ft. Traces of the first vineyard are few, but the records of its planting date to 1869. Today, eighty-three of the estate's 235 acres are planted to vines. Because the vineyards straddle the crest of the mountain (which is the dividing line between Napa Valley and Sonoma County), the labels must state either on or the other of these regions of origin or a percentage of each. The flagship of the estate is the Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon. Fruit comes from dry farmed estate-grown vines planted in 1982. The wines are made by Sally Johnson, and the average annual production of the Reserve Cabernet is 1,000 – 2,000 cases.

Dunn Vineyards

Randy Dunn first came to the attention of the wine drinking public while he was the winemaker at Caymus from 1975 – 1985. Although he and his wife founded Dunn Vineyards on Howell Mountain in 1979, the development of this iconic property was a slow burn, as it took him several years to quit his day job at Caymus, and even longer to unite the vineyards that were to provide the fruit for Dunn Howell Mountain Cabernet. The Dunn family now owns 200 acres of property in Napa Valley, 35 of which are planted to vines. The heart of the estate holdings is the Trailer Vineyard, planted in 1972, where the Dunns lived in a trailer while the vineyard was planted and the house was built. The Lake

Vineyard, next to their home, was purchased later, in 1999. Today the Dunns own other vineyards and also have long term leases to ensure their supply of Howell Mountain fruit. Production of the signature Howell Mountain bottling has grown from about 400 cases in the early years to an average near 2,500 cases today.

Aubert Wines

Aubert Wines was founded by Mark Aubert and his wife in 2000. The winery is based in Calistoga, at the northern end of Napa Valley. Aubert has had a long and illustrious career as a winemaker in Napa Valley, producing wine for Peter Michael, Colgin Cellars, and consulting on a number of other projects as well, including Sloan and Bryant Family. Much of the fruit for the Aubert label is sourced, but there are 3.2 acres in Sonoma, while sourced fruit comes from the Sonoma Coast, the Napa side of Carneros, Sonoma's Russian River Valley and Rutherford.