

winecentral

CABERNET SAUVIGNON



The king of the red wine grapes

Cabernet Sauvignon produces wines of structure and complexity with rich dark fruit characteristics.

BODY 

TANNIN 

ACIDITY 

AGE 5-25 years

Key Flavours



----- Black cherry



----- Black currant



----- Dark fruits



----- Cedar



----- Warm spice

History

Cabernet Sauvignon is a cross between Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Franc and comes from Bordeaux, France. It was only discovered in 1997 that Cabernet Sauvignon was in fact a descendent of Sauvignon Blanc so the knowledge that it comes from Sauv and Cab Franc is relatively new! Nowadays it's grown across most of the world's wine growing regions and is both blended and left to its own accord.

Description

Cab Sauv's will often be big, powerful reds with a lavishly layered palate often with a touch of cedar wood. When blended it elevates the concentration of flavours and helps add a big finish.

Buying Guide

So what's a Bordeaux Blend?

Bordeaux Blends are a style of wine that in their true sense come from Bordeaux but many will refer to certain red blends as a Bordeaux Blend. Traditionally they're a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc but others can often be found in the mix. The Bordeaux Blends that actually come from Bordeaux will often be on the more savoury side, go excellently with food and have great ageing potential.

If you're after lots of tannins...

Try an Aussie Cab Sauv. They know their way around a big, powerful red wine and you'll often find their Cab Sauv's have a bit more grip.

If you're after something velvety...

Argentina are good at silky wines and their Cab Sauv's are no exception. Higher end Argentinian Cab Sauv's can be barrel aged which rounds off the body and makes them velvety smooth.



Where in the World

France, Chile
USA, Australia
Spain, Argentina
Italy, South Africa,
New Zealand



Food Pairing

Rich grilled meats
Peppery sauces
Fatty rich meat dishes



Top Tips

Difficult to grow but delightful to drink.

- ☆ Pinot Noir is the most popular red wine grape in New Zealand, accounting for approximately 70% of this country's vineyard area.
- ☆ It's originally from Burgundy in north east France.
- ☆ It's a cool climate grape and ripens early.
- ☆ It's thin skinned so tends to have a lighter colour and lower tannins than most other popular red wines.
- ☆ It's also known as Spatburgunder in Germany, Blauburgunder in Switzerland and Blauer Spatburgunder in Austria.
- ☆ Is the second most planted grape in New Zealand overall – second only to Sauvignon Blanc.
- ☆ Has a natural affinity with oak and is usually fermented or matured in oak.
- ☆ Price indicates the type of oak used (new or old oak and for how long the wine is aged in it).
- ☆ Is rarely blended with other grapes apart from in high quality sparkling wine.
- ☆ Grows best in cool climates and does not do well in warm to hot ones, in which it loses its acidity – the hallmark of its refreshing elegance and characteristic lighter bodied style.