

Wine & Spirits

US Cabernet Sauvignon

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2017 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Tasted two years ago, this wine felt like a gangly adolescent; it needed plenty of time in a decanter to turn toward its depths of fruit and floral complexity. A clean young cabernet, destined to age with grace, it earned 92 points. Now with a bit more maturity, and out of a magnum, the 2017 feels classic, its flavors sheer and transparent, coalescing around mineral-inflected tannins that still carry youthful power. Those tannins bring notes of cocoa and smoky ancho chile, lending gravity to the wine's silken texture. —Reviewed by Joshua Greene.

