



Northern California – Part I: Napa Valley

This is a superb line-up of wines from Lou Kapcsandy, who emigrated from Hungary to set up a construction business in Seattle, which he gave up for his true love - making wines along with his wife, Bobbi, and son, Louis. They were fortunate to be able to purchase Beringer's State Lane Vineyard in Yountville, and have it completely replanted by Helen Turley and John Wetlaufer. They then brought in Bordelais Denis Malbec to help produce the wines, which have gone from strength to strength. The 2006s are magnificent, but may be eclipsed by the 2007s. Tel. (707) 948-3100; Fax (707) 948-3106

2006 Kapcsandy Family Winery Cabernet Sauvignon State Lane Vineyard

A Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #186 (Dec 2009)

Rating: 97

Drink 2009 - 2034

The 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon - Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard is a 650-case blend of 91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, and 1% Cabernet Franc. A candidate for "wine of the vintage," it boasts an extraordinary perfume of lead pencil shavings, plums, licorice, black currants, and white chocolate as well as a firm, Bordeaux-like structure, good purity, and incredibly sweet fruit. It will benefit from 4-5 years of bottle age, and last for 20-25 years. Those consumers who complain about high alcohol in California Cabernets should realize that this offering possesses less than 14% alcohol.

2007 Kapcsandy Family Winery Cabernet Sauvignon State Lane Vineyard

A Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California,

USA, Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #186 (Dec 2009)

Rating: 100

Drink 2012 – 2042

Absolutely riveting, and even better than I predicted last year is the 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon - Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard. Made from 92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot, and the rest tiny dollops of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot (400 cases produced), in two weeks of tastings, this wine stood out as one of those singular efforts that it is impossible to get out of your mind and off of your palate. A flawless, seamless, profound example of Napa Cabernet, it exhibits an opaque purple color along with a gorgeous perfume of lead pencil shavings, cedar, creme de cassis, ink, flowers, and espresso roast. With phenomenal depth, a multidimensional personality, unbelievable length, and an impeccable integration of all its component parts, this stunning wine lasts and lasts, with a finish approaching a full minute. Give this profound wine 3-5 years of cellaring, and drink it over the following 25-30 years.

2007 Kapcsandy Family Winery Endre Proprietary Red

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #186 (Dec 2009)

Rating: 90

Drink 2009 - 2019

A new offering made from lots culled out from their barrels, the seductive, charming 2007 Endre (40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 48% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot) is a sleeper of the vintage with a magnetic hedonism. White chocolate, dark berries, and lots of flesh are reminiscent of a ripe Pomerol vintage. It is best drunk during its first decade of life. This offering was originally called Overture #1, but because Opus One has a second wine called Overture, the name was changed to Endre. Some readers may have bought this wine at the winery with an Overture #1 label. Be assured, it is the same wine as the Endre.

2006 Kapcsandy Family Winery Estate Cuvee State Lane Vineyard

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA, Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA #186 (Dec 2009)

Rating: 93+

Drink 2009 – 2029

The 2006 Estate Cuvee State Lane Vineyard (a blend of 48% Cabernet Sauvignon, 48% Merlot, and 4% Cabernet Franc) possesses a dark plum/purple color as well as notes of roasted coffee, cocoa, chocolate, black currants, sweet cherries, and subtle oak. Medium to full-bodied, elegant, layered, intense, pure, and long, it is approachable now, but promises to drink well for two decades or more

2007 Kapcsandy Family Winery Estate Cuvee State Lane Vineyard

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA, Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #186 (Dec 2009)

Rating: 96

Drink – 2009-2035

The 2007 Estate Cuvee State Lane Vineyard (a 750-case blend of 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot) boasts an inky/plum/purple color as well as a complex bouquet of melted licorice, chocolate, creme de cassis, mocha, and sweet forest floor aromas. Full-bodied and layered with exquisite purity, texture, and length, this large-scaled offering reveals a supple texture along with 20-25 years of drinkability. It is a seductive yet extraordinarily complex wine that should prove to be a future super-star.

2006 Kapcsandy Family Winery Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA, Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #186 (Dec 2009)

Rating: 96

Drink 2009 - 2039

The 2006 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard (94% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc; 250 cases produced) is potentially the finest Merlot being made in California, although it has several noteworthy competitors, particularly Pahlmeyer. The Roberta's Reserve exhibits classic Merlot notes of chocolate fudge and mocha intertwined with black currants, sweet black cherries, and hints of smoke and forest floor. The complex aromatics are accompanied by an opulent, lush wine displaying terrific definition. Approachable now, it should last for 25-30 years.

2007 Kapcsandy Family Winery Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA, Review by [Robert Parker](#)
WA # , #186 (Dec 2009)
Rating: 98+
Drink 2013 – 2043

Nearly as extraordinary, and a wine that may turn out to be pure perfection in a few years is the 2007 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard. Composed of 92% Merlot and 8% Cabernet Franc (only 100 cases produced), this dense purple-hued Merlot offers up an exotic nose of mocha, cocoa, orange blossoms, cassis, and cherries. Its elegance combined with tremendous substance, power, and richness is exhilarating. This compelling wine possesses an extraordinary deep mid-palate as well as aromatic fireworks. It can be drunk now, but it promises to be even better in 4-5 years, and last for three decades.