



KAPCSANDY – TASTING THE NEW AND CURRENT RELEASES

2010	ROSÉ	YOUNTVILLE	13.5%	325 cs.	\$28	88
2010	ROSÉ of CABERNET SAUVIGNON GRAND VIN	YOUNTVILLE	NA	NA	TBA	88
2010	ROSÉ of MERLOT (ROBERTA'S ROSÉ)	YOUNTVILLE	NA	NA	TBD	89
2008	RED WINE ENDRE 51CS 25MR 16CF 8PV	YOUNTVILLE	14.1%	370 cs.	\$80.	91
2009	RED WINE ENDRE 50CS 39MR 07CF 4PV	YOUNTVILLE	13.5%	1800 cs.	TBD	92
2008	CABERNET SAUVIGNON - ESTATE CUVÉE	YOUNTVILLE	14.5%	825 cs.	\$150	96
2009	CABERNET SAUVIGNON - ESTATE CUVÉE	YOUNTVILLE	13.1%	250 cs.	\$150	94
2008	CABERNET SAUVIGNON – GRAND VIN	YOUNTVILLE	14.5%	400 cs.	\$300	93
2009	CABERNET SAUVIGNON – GRAND VIN	YOUNTVILLE	13.7%	480 cs.	\$300	96
2008	MERLOT – ROBERTA'S RESERVE	YOUNTVILLE	14.5%	125 cs.	\$300	96
2009	MERLOT – ROBERTA'S RESERVE	YOUNTVILLE	14.1%	260 cs.	\$300	94+

Late last month, I took a much-needed afternoon to spend with Lou Kapcsandy at his State Lane Vineyard in Yountville in order to comprehensively taste all the available releases. As many times as I have been in the private tasting room here, I rarely bring a pen and paper to take notes, but this time was very different. When at Vinfolio, I wrote extensively about the 2003 and 2004 vintages from this vineyard, the former location for Beringer's State Lane Vineyard and published the first notes on the 2004. This may be the strongest showing across the board and these represent the first reviews of the 2009 (post release).

Kapcsandy makes three Rosé, all derived from the red wine program. They are refreshingly serious, complex wines. **2010 Rosé** is 55CS|MR|06CF|05PV. It has a rich, yeasty nose of red fruits with great texture on the palate showing golden stone fruit, nuts and fresh, lively acidity. Stone dry. **2010 Rosé Grand Vin**, is made from some of California's most seriously harvested fruit, White pepper, dried stone fruit with bright notes of red and golden raspberries. Cherry brightness on the palate with clean, precise acidity delivers a pleasant grip to the palate. **2010 Roberta's Rosé**, is 100% Merlot (saignee). It has an inviting, floral character in the nose. The palate is bright and hits between the eyes with bold, clean purity. It is a lovely wine for sipping or serious food pairing.

2008 Endre Red Wine, started out at the same place as the other red varietals and receives roughly the same barrel regimen but don't make the cut for the cuvee. Has a spicy mint nose with red raspberry and polished floral notes. The palate has nice focus with velvet-like mid palate weight and complexity. Drink 2011 – 2016. **2009 Endre** shows a lush and pretty nose of red and black fruits, along with a little graphite. Beautiful ripeness in the front of the mouth with solid structure to the deep black fruits. Drink 2011 – 2016.

I know it may sound strange to consider a \$150 bottle a 'bargain' but seeing it is half the price of the *grand vin*, that is just what happens with the **2008 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Cuvée**, a dark, rich nose of cherry, violet, hints of caramel and bottomless black fruit extract. The palate is deep, intense and polished, with copious black fruit, lavender and red currant. 68CS|22MR|05CF|05PV Drink 2011 – 2025.

2009 Estate Cuvée, 100CS, has a nose of richly expansive loam, cherry and currant. The palate is gorgeous with balanced currant, red cherry and blackberry, although this wine is more about the texture and length than the flavors. The tannins are silky and well integrated into the wine. Drink 2012 – 2025.

2008 Grand Vin, has a lot going for it; a nose with whiffs of lilac, copious and expansive smooth black fruit, brought into focus by some lively red fruits. In the mouth, flowers, red and blue fruits all provide an excellent interplay leading to an inky black fruit core on mid palate. Here though, the wine gets a bit angular and stays that way for a while. I have no doubt that it will work out in the end. Drink 2012 – 2030. **2009 Grand Vin**, shows an explosive nose of crushed rock, mineral, red cherry and geranium. On the palate, polished black fruits are everywhere you look and they are interwoven with solid, smooth tannins. Drink 2011 – 2030.

2008 Merlot, Roberta's Reserve shows a nose of velvet-like blossoms and dark red fruits, with a palate that is powerful, intense and profound. The fruit is well defined and polished with a little oxidized character near the finish. Still one of the top Merlot on the market. Drink 2011 - 2025 **2009 Merlot, Roberta's Reserve** shows a brilliant nose of dusty and precise cherry and mocha with a palate that delivers everything promised in the aromas with long, polished tannins. Drink 2011 – 2028. www.kapcsandywines.com