

vinous

98 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2023 - 2041

Bright full ruby. Very dark nose combines black fruits, violet, graphite and river rock, plus subtle hints of molasses, tobacco and leather; less relentlessly primary than more recent vintages, but then 2010 widely produced explosive, complex, soil-driven aromas. This wine, too, shows a slightly liqueur-like quality yet seems less evolved than the Roberta's. Stunningly silky yet penetrating too, with its dark fruit, mineral and floral flavors conveying terrific vinosity and cut. A firm tannic spine gives this savory wine terrific grip on the palate-staining back end. A distinctly European style in the context of Napa Valley, with its outstanding flavor complexity aided by alcohol well below 14%. (13.6% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

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From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot

Release price

\$350.00

vinous

98 pts

**Kapcsándy Family Winery 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin
State Lane Vineyard**

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2021 - 2040

Saturated dark red with ruby highlights. Wonderfully complex perfume combines black raspberry, blueberry, subtle torrefaction notes and a hint of black olive. Boasts outstanding thickness of texture without any heaviness, with its dark fruit and mineral flavors complicated by subtle spices. Perhaps most impressive today on the back end, which features an explosive, sappy flavor of tart cherry stomp and spreads out horizontally to saturate the palate. Of course there are tannins here, but that word did not appear in my original tasting note as they are totally buffered by the wine's extract-rich fruit. (14.1% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

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From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

99% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Merlot

Release price

\$375.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

320

Release Date

March 2015

vinous

98 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2013 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2021 - 2042

Full medium ruby. Very pure aromas and flavors of medicinal black cherry, black raspberry, blueberry, licorice, lilac and violet. A step up in density and black-fruit intensity from the 2014 Roberta's, conveying uncommon thickness of texture without any impression of weightiness. Finishes wonderfully pristine and long, with big but fully buffered tannins. With its striking blend of sweet and savory elements and enlivening minerality, this is a nearly perfect Merlot--but give it at least another couple of years before pulling the cork. (14.2% alcohol; all French oak, 85% new)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

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From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

Merlot

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

400

Release Date

March 2016

vinous

98 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2024 - 2041

Deep medium ruby; more saturated than the Roberta's. Knockout nose offers aromas of cassis, black cherry, dark plum, shoe polish and espresso, plus an element of toasty oak. Remarkably plush, dense and seamless, presenting a compelling balance of sweet dark berry fruit and firming minerality, with complicating notes of tobacco and spices. Really sensational Cabernet purity here! The wine's substantial tannins hit the palate late and build, giving the very long finish an element of sweetness that makes the Roberta's seem almost dry in comparison. Lou Kapcsándy described 2014 as "a steady year in the middle of drought years, with a relatively cool August and a fairly stress-free harvest--and easier than the warm 2013 growing season." (13.9% alcohol; 98% new French and 2% new Hungarian oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

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From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

800

Release Date

September 2017

vinous

97+ pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2027 - 2048

Bright, full ruby. A brooding black hole of a nose, hinting at black fruits, licorice, lavender, menthol and bitter chocolate; conveys a strong impression of medicinal reserve. Bigger, richer and deeper than the Roberta's Reserve but ultimately silky and seamless, conveying uncommon sweetness and an extract-rich mouthfeel. This, too, is utterly unevolved, even youthfully unformed today, but it should evolve in bottle for decades. Finishes extremely tactile and long, with a repeating note of chocolate and lingering subtle sweetness. (14.2% alcohol; aged in 90% new French, 5% new Hungarian and 5% second-fill French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

Cabernet Sauvignon

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

425

Release Date

March 2019

vinous

97 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2007 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2036

Healthy medium ruby. Scented aromas of blackberry, blueberry, licorice, graphite and violet; in contrast to the '07 Grand Vin, this wine is beginning to unclench on the nose. Dense, suave, pliant and utterly seamless, with its remarkably deep dark berry and bitter chocolate flavors communicating a distinctly primary character. Beautifully integrated acidity and a repeating floral quality contribute verve to the middle palate. Spreads out horizontally to saturate the entire palate and front teeth on the building finish. A great showing today--in fact, this is really the first wine of the tasting that I would not hesitate to drink now, but I'd still give the bottle a bit of aeration first. (14.6% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

92% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$195.00

vinous

97 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2012 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2022 - 2042

Good medium ruby; not as crystal-clear as the 2013. Knockout nose combines crushed dark berries, volcanic (basalt?) minerality and high-toned violet and lilac notes. Spectacularly dense, silky and suave, showing surprisingly firm but perfectly integrated acidity for the year. Wonderfully chewy, strong, structured Merlot with the serious tannic mass to support a long and graceful evolution in bottle--and yet it's already utterly seamless. Really glistens on the palate and rises on the aftertaste. (14.5% alcohol; 100% Merlot, for the first time; 100% new oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

Merlot

Release price

\$350.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

300

Release Date

March 2015

vinous

96+ pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2024 - 2045

Saturated medium ruby to the rim. Black fruits, crushed rock and tropical bitter chocolate on the nose, lifted by a hint of wildflowers. Densely packed and uncommonly deep, with its black fruit, floral and mineral flavors sharing the pristine quality of the 2013 Roberta's. This incredibly rich, tactile, chewy wine finishes with suave, steadily building tannins, but its element of medicinal menthol reserve suggests that it still needs several years of patience. It may eventually equal--or surpass--the Roberta's, but not in the next ten years. (14.1% alcohol; 97% new French and 3% new Hungarian oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

600

Release Date

March 2016

vinous

96 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2022 - 2040

Bright medium ruby. Alluring aromas of dark berries, licorice, lavender and violet. Wonderfully dense, spicy wine with an exhilarating sugar/acid balance giving definition to its dark berry, mineral and floral flavors. Offers outstanding thickness and depth of texture without any undue weight. Really echoes and rises on the long back end, with the noble tannins thoroughly integrated with the wine's fruit. This makes the Roberta's seem a bit unyielding, but I suspect that that wine will yet gain in pliancy. One of the handful of superstars of its vintage, from fruit picked between October 14 and 17, or almost a full month later than the Roberta's Merlot (September 18). (14.5% alcohol; 98% new French and 2% new Hungarian oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 3%
Petit Verdot

Release price

\$450.00

vinous

96 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2015 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2025 - 2041

Saturated ruby-red. Brooding, medicinal scents of dark cherry, menthol and licorice. Boasts outstanding breadth and density of material, with its expressive flavors of black cherry, dark berries, spices and bitter chocolate complicated by salty minerality and lifted by a subtle floral quality. This distinctly soil-driven wine is showing more personality today than the '16 and should reach its plane of peak drinkability earlier. And yet my sample tightened up in the glass to show a rather powerful tannic spine. (14.4% alcohol; 100% Merlot; from fruit harvested three weeks earlier than in 2016; 88% new French, 3% new Hungarian and 9% second-fill French)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

Merlot

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

350

vinous

96 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2025 - 2043

Deep medium ruby. Aromas of black cherry, licorice and menthol, plus a slightly green suggestion of cassis bud and a hint of coffee torrefaction; aeration brought a suggestion of citrusy lift. Wonderfully dense, fine-grained and sweet; like the Roberta's, this is much easier to taste today than its 2016 sibling, even if it doesn't possess quite that wine's breadth. With its refined texture and sweetness of fruit, this wine comes across as less obviously tannic than the 2016 Roberta's--yet more indication of the power of Merlot at this site. Incidentally, the '15s were bottled in July of 2017, a month or two later than previous vintages. (14.2% alcohol; 88% new French, 3% new Hungarian and 9% second-fill French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

700

vinous

95+ pts

**Kapcsándy Family Winery 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin
State Lane Vineyard**

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2021 - 2036

Saturated dark ruby. Less expressive and more medicinal and brooding on the nose than the Roberta's, offering extremely primary scents of cassis, licorice, bitter chocolate and violet. Then fat, full and strong on the palate, showing the sweetness of the Roberta's but not that wine's plushness of texture. Currently dominated by intense black fruits, spices and violet. Finishes with a savory dryness and slightly tough, chewy tannins that still need time to resolve. This wine strikes me as being in a rather clenched phase of its evolution, but it has the mid-palate extract to support its serious tannic load. (14.4% alcohol; 98% new French and 2% new Hungarian oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc, 1%
Petit Verdot

Release price

\$225.00

vinous

95+ pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2016 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2026 - 2046

Bright, deep ruby-red. Aromas of blackberry, blueberry, bitter chocolate, spices, violet and lilac are complicated by a saline quality. Wonderfully dense, sappy wine; very pure and intense, showing an almost aggressively youthful quality to its berry, dark cherry and spice flavors. Highly concentrated but a bit unforthcoming today. This wine already displays lovely integration of acidity and tannins yet today it comes across as a bit spiky compared to the Grand Vin, perhaps because it possesses a bit less density. Finishes with an intriguing note of dark chocolate and outstanding rising length. I would expect this wine to eventually merit an even higher rating. (14.6% alcohol; aged in French oak, 70% new)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

Merlot

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

400

Release Date

March 2019

vinous

95 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2035

Brilliant deep ruby; no brick or amber on any of these! Very pure, vibrant scents and flavors of crushed black fruits, minerals and bitter chocolate; smells riper than the Roberta's. Densely packed and suave, conveying greater sweetness and finesse than the Roberta's, which comes off as a bit clenched by comparison. Similarly, these tannins are nobler--and more thoroughly buffered by fruit on the very long aftertaste. Lovely balance and energy here. (13.6% alcohol; 98% new French and 2% new Hungarian oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$185.00

vinous

95 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2008 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2020 - 2036

Full medium ruby, not entirely lucid. Some porty high tones to the aromas of blackberry, blueberry, licorice, violet, crushed herbs and black pepper. Concentrated and tactile but youthfully brooding, conveying a distinct juiciness and firm acidity to its primary dark berry, bitter chocolate, spice and pepper flavors. Neither as thick nor as sweet as it appeared to be in the year following the bottling, but fine-grained and light on its feet. Finishes savory and very long, with firm but refined tannins and noteworthy vibrancy. A terrific performance from a growing season that brought a wide range of ripeness to red Bordeaux varieties, due in part to very strict selection here. (14.5% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$475.00

vinous

95 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2009 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2020 - 2035

Healthy medium ruby. Pomerol-like aromas of redcurrant, iron, tobacco and mocha torrefaction. Wonderfully pliant, fleshy and full, showing less complexity in the early going than the 2010 version but more obvious sweetness to its berry, mineral and floral flavors. This big, ripe, seamless wine boasts excellent vinosity. The very long, rising finish features ripe, granular tannins and lingering notes of mocha, dried flowers and tobacco. I'd love to throw this into a blind tasting of 2009 Pomerols. (14.1% alcohol; all French oak, 90% new)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$345.00

vinous

95 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2010 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2022 - 2039

Full medium ruby. Alluring floral lift to the aromas of black cherry, dark plum, licorice, cocoa powder and minerals; showed a slightly exotic hint of liqueur-like ripeness with aeration, possibly due to a bit of late dehydration of the fruit. Wonderfully sweet and plush, with its blue and black fruit, bitter chocolate and licorice flavors enlivened by graphite minerality. The wine's slightly high-toned character just contributes to its personality. This began with big, dusty tannins but harmonized nicely with air and became smoother, finishing with outstanding juicy cut and length. Still, I find it a bit clenched next to the Cabernet Grand Vin. I should note that when I originally tasted this wine shortly after its bottling, I described it as "perhaps the single greatest Merlot-based wine I have ever tasted from California." So I would not be at all surprised if it merited a higher score with more time in the cellar. (14.5% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$350.00

vinous

95 pts

**Kapcsándy Family Winery 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin
State Lane Vineyard**

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2023 - 2039

Medium ruby-red; deeper than the 2011 Roberta's. Classic Cabernet Sauvignon aromas of blackcurrant, blueberry, licorice and minerals, plus a whiff of cassis bud. Densely packed but also wonderfully juicy, with its dark berry, espresso and crushed rock flavors lifted by a spice element. This comes across as sweeter than the 2011 Roberta's, with its more complete integration of acids and tannins suggesting greater phenolic ripeness. Finishes sappy and very long, with a strong licorice quality. (13.7% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$300.00

vinous

94+ pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2014 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2024 - 2038

Good medium ruby, but not quite as saturated as either the '15 or '16. Alluring, complex scents of black raspberry, plum, licorice, bitter chocolate and Provençal herbs. Wonderfully refined wine with crushed dark berry and menthol flavors accented by herbs and a floral nuance; the fruit shows a briary, almost inky character. Very tight in the early going--even a bit youthfully stunted, but has all the elements for extended bottle aging. Finishes very long, savory and dry, with a serious spine of granular tannins. (14.4% alcohol; 70% new French, 25% second-fill French and 5% new Hungarian oak; the late Denis Malbec made the '14s but did not bottle them)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

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From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

97% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

650

Release Date

September 2017

vinous

94 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2032

Deep, bright ruby. Complex aromas of dark berries, licorice, dried herbs, lavender and tobacco, plus a mellow plum note that's likely from the 14% Merlot component. Sweet, deep, densely packed and rich, conveying a chocolatey ripeness to its slightly roasted yet lively dark fruit flavors. Impressively large-scaled and mouthfilling if not as complex or delineated as more recent vintages. Here the tannins are nobler than those of the Roberta's, saturating the palate without blocking the fruit. When I first tasted the Grand Vin and Roberta's Reserve from bottle, I preferred the Roberta's for its seamlessness. But the Grand Vin is evolving more slowly and retains more energy today. (14.3% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$175.00

vinous

94 pts

**Kapcsándy Family Winery 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Vin
State Lane Vineyard**

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2031

Deep ruby-red. If the Roberta's smells like Pomerol, this one is Haut-Brion-like in its wild notes of leather and road tar. Wonderfully thick and sweet but a bit funky too, offering plush flavors of black raspberry, licorice, leather and game. Very densely packed wine with nicely integrated acidity and copious, fully ripe tannins. Really scrapes the palate clean on the rising finish. If there's any brett here, it's just another element of complexity, as it does not dominate or dry the wine's fruit. (13.7% alcohol; 96% French oak--80% new--and 4% new Hungarian oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$375.00

vinous

93 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2006 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2030

Bright medium ruby. Reticent aromas of medicinal dark berries, licorice, tar and violet. Tight-grained wine with sound acidity but not the fleshiness or layered texture of most of the later vintages. More pretty and elegant than particularly powerful or deep, but still an amazing performance for four-year-old vines. Shows better integration of its oak component than the '05 Roberta's. Best today on the firm, chocolatey finish, where the tannins are still a bit clenched. There's an element of delicacy here that I like. (For his part, Kapcsándy describes 2006 as "an elegant vintage, but with a lot of hot weather in July.") (14.1% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

94% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$195.00

vinous

93 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2011 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2021 - 2036

Good dark red. Penetrating aromas of blueberry, pine needles, lavender and cedar come across as distinctly cool after the '12 and '13 bottlings. Fine-grained and densely packed if less plush and sweet than the younger vintages of Roberta's. There's a faintly herbal quality throughout the wine that gives it lovely mid-palate lift and refreshes the surprisingly expansive finish. Tannins are substantial but not dry. I suspect I would have scored this very stylish wine higher had I tasted it on its own, and it's certainly a standout in the context of its vintage. I recall that from the outset Lou Kapcsándy was high on his site's Merlot in this challenging growing season, although in March he described 2011 as "the cool vintage." He added that the Merlot was in by October 13 but that it was then necessary to wait 10 or 12 days for the Cabernet Sauvignon to develop ripe phenolics. He referred to the Cabernet as "our Yquem vintage," as strict selection was necessary. 14.1% alcohol; all French oak, 93% new)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

© 2019 Vinous Media

From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

96% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$300.00

vinous

92 pts

Kapcsándy Family Winery 2005 Roberta's Reserve State Lane Vineyard

Yountville, Napa Valley

Red wine from United States

Drinking window: 2019 - 2026

Dark red with ruby highlights. Musky aromas of black cherry, plum, iron, crushed herbs and licorice, with some suggestions of very ripe fruit. Sweet, fat and rich; plummy and mouthfilling but without quite the clarity or lift of subsequent vintages. Showing a slight balsamic quality but not oxidative. The rather plush, granular tannins are more resolved than those of the 2006 but still give the finish a dusty edge--as well as good punch. Kapcsándy added an "Estate Cuvée" blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot in 2005, which at the time was essentially a second wine. (14.5% alcohol; 100% new French oak)

Stephen Tanzer. Tasting date: March 2019

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From Kapcsándy Roberta's Reserve and Grand Vin (Jun 2019)

Kapcsándy Family Winery

Grape/Blend

91% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc

Release price

\$150.00

