

California's Surprising 2004 Cabernets: 20 to Watch

Exciting New Cabernet Labels

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Nearly 100 new Cabernet bottlings have appeared in California over the past year-and most of them are from Napa Valley. The 20 producers profiled here stood out in recent tastings. They represent the efforts of a diverse group of winemakers: world-renowned vintners, hobbyists, landowners, a vineyard manager and a well-known wine retailer. Some own vineyards and/or a winery, some do not, but each has assembled a passionate and committed Cabernet team. And there's no sign of the boom of new producers slowing-there are dozens more new labels on the horizon, scheduled to release their first wines over the next couple years.

LEVENDI

Father and son James and David Gianulias and longtime friend Todd Rustman combined their experience in real estate, asset management, grapegrowing and hobby winemaking to create Levendi. Winemaker Alison Doran crafts the Cabernet Sauvignon with grapes from the Stagecoach Vineyard. The partners are currently designing a winery to be built in Rutherford that will also be home to artisanal cheese production.

Score	Wine	Price	Cases Made
91	Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Stagecoach Vineyard 2004	\$68	675

