

THE
tastingpanel
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AN
ENTREPRENEUR'S
Journey

THE SUCCESS STORY BEHIND
PURPLE BRANDS



PHOTO: ALAN CAMPBELL

Purple Brands head distiller Jeff Duckhorn and winemaker Joe Tapparo.



96 Crown Point Vineyards
2014 Estate Selection,

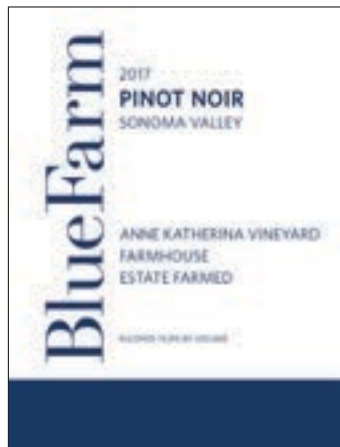
Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara AVA (\$150) A bold and delicious wine from the extremely interesting Happy Canyon area, located north of Santa Barbara. Deep garnet color with an exquisite nose of plum and vanilla and a rich, luscious texture; ripe and dense with abundant spice and a refined style. 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Malbec, and 11% Merlot.

95 Crown Point Vineyards 2015 Estate Selection, Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara AVA

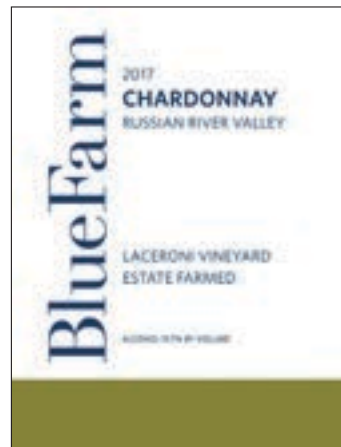
(\$150) Fragrant and juicy, with complex, vibrant layers of toast, brioche, and plum; silky and tangy, long and balanced. 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Cabernet Franc, 9% Petit Verdot, 9% Malbec, and 2% Merlot. Give it a year or two.

97 Crown Point Vineyards 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon, Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara AVA

(\$150) Deep, lush color; intensely smooth and delicious with lovely vanilla and toast. A remarkable wine from a great vintage, showing chocolate, spice, and considerable length.



94 Blue Farm 2017 Pinot Noir, Anne Katherina Vineyard, Farmhouse Block, Carneros, Sonoma Valley (\$95) Medium crimson color with a nose of cherry and toast. Lush, deep, and savory with intense notes of cherry and a silky texture. A classic from the edge of Carneros with a name I love.



95 Blue Farm 2017 Chardonnay, Laceroni Vineyard, Russian River Valley (\$70) Lovely toasty nose; smooth, refined, and crisp yet with a glossy texture. Long, bracing, complex, and classic; juicy, balanced, and stunning.



94 Paula Kornell 2017 Blanc de Noir Méthode Champenoise, Napa Valley (\$50) Paula hails from a family of sparkling winemakers, so it's no surprise that her first effort is quite masterful. Pale pink hue; dry with ripe berry flavors elevated by pure, crisp acidity and muscular bubbles; long, balanced, and truly impressive.