



BECKMEN VINEYARDS

Vinous – September 2016

Reviews by Antonio Galloni

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Block Six Syrah

Rating: 93+

Drink Date: 2017 – 2024

Date Tasted: September 2016

Another compelling, delicious wine, the 2014 Syrah Block Six Purisima Mountain Vineyard presents a darker profile than the 2013 tasted alongside it, with plenty of black cherry, plum, lavender, menthol, sage and spice. Beams of tannin support the long, persistent finish. The 2014 appears to have a bright future.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah Clone #1

Rating: 93

Drink Date: 2016 – 2024

Date Tasted: September 2016

The 2014 Syrah Clone #1 Purisima Mountain Vineyard jumps from the glass. Vibrant and beautifully poised, with lovely energy and tension, the 2014 is another winner from Steve Beckmen. Sage, lavender and menthol wrap around a core of blue/blackish fruit. Next to the 2013, the 2014 is a bit more focused and savory in profile.

2013 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Block Six Syrah

Rating: 93

Drink Date: 2017 – 2022

Date Tasted: September 2016

Vibrant and powerful in the glass, the 2013 Syrah Block Six Purisima Mountain Vineyard is beautifully delineated in the glass. Chalk, bright red stone fruits, white flowers and menthol are some of the many notes that shape this super-expressive, aromatically intense Syrah.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah

Rating: 92

Drink Date: 2016 – 2022

Date Tasted: September 2016

The 2014 Syrah Purisima Mountain Vineyard is dark, powerful and authoritative, within the mid-weight personality of the vintage. Black cherry, blackberry, graphite, spice and leather are all nicely pushed forward. Delineated and vibrant, the 2014 is pristine today. It should drink well for another handful of years. This is a fairly restrained, vibrant style for Ballard Canyon.

2013 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah Clone #1

Rating: 92

Drink Date: 2016 – 2021

Date Tasted: September 2016

The 2013 Syrah Clone #1 Purisima Mountain Vineyard is plump, juicy and supple, all of which give it quite a bit of immediacy and up-front appeal. Sweet red cherry, plum, mint, spice and rose petal meld together in a juicy Syrah endowed with real personality. This is an especially fruit-driven style of Syrah with soft contours and plenty to admire. The Clone #1 was done with fully destemmed fruit.

2015 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Viognier

Rating: 90

Drink Date: 2016 – 2019

Date Tasted: September 2016

The 2015 Viognier Purisima Mountain Vineyard is a very pretty wine that captures plenty of varietal nuance while retaining freshness and avoiding excess heaviness. Lime, sage and sweet floral notes add lovely shades of nuance throughout.

2014 TLB

Rating: 90

Drink Date: 2016 – 2022

Date Tasted: September 2016

The 2014 TLB Estate Cuvée, Steve Beckmen's Cabernet Sauvignon/Syrah blend, is terrific. It has also retained more freshness than the straight Cabernet off this site. Plum, blackberry, sweet herbs, leather and licorice are pushed forward in a juicy, succulent wine to drink now and over the next handful of years. There is plenty to like.

2014 Cuvée le Bec

Rating: 90

Drink Date: 2016 – 2019

Date Tasted: September 2016

The 2014 Cuvée Le Bec is an absolutely delicious wine as well as a tremendous value. Supple, vibrant and impeccably well-balanced, the 2014 offers considerable near and medium-term appeal, with plenty of vibrant fruit pushed forward. Le Bec is 50% Syrah, 35% Grenache, 8% Mourvèdre and 7% Counoise.