



BECKMEN VINEYARDS

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Reviews by [Jeb Dunnuck](#)

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah Clone #1

Rating: 94

Drink Date: 2017 – 2024

Date Tasted: July 11, 2016

Slightly less aromatic than the Block 6, which is a touch more high toned, the 2014 Syrah Clone No 1 Purisima Mountain (100% Syrah aged 16 months in 45% new French oak) reveals terrific, meaty, savory notes of black fruits, smoked earth, chocolate and caramelized meats. Rich, full-bodied, concentrated and nicely structured on the palate, it needs 2-3 years of bottle age and will keep through 2025.

2014 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

Rating: 93

Drink Date: 2015 – 2025

Date Tasted: July 10, 2016

Moving to the reds and one of the top Bordeaux blends coming out of the Santa Ynez Valley, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Ynez Valley offers classic notes of mint, plums, spring flowers and graphite in a full-bodied, richly concentrated and textured package. Despite being a big, rich, concentrated wine, it always stays fresh and lively and has terrific purity of fruit. I actually like it today, but it will no doubt drink nicely for a decade or more.

2014 TLB

Rating: (92 - 94)

Drink Date: 2015 – 2025

Date Tasted: July 11, 2016

Tasted out of tank, the 2014 Syrah / Cabernet Sauvignon TLB Estate Cuvee is a terrific blend of 85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Syrah that will see 18 months in 55% new French oak. It has fabulous texture and richness, with classic Cabernet notes of crème de cassis, lead pencil shaving, tobacco leaf and graphite. Rich, concentrated, polished and incredibly drinkable, it too should drink nicely for a decade.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Block Six Syrah

Rating: (92 - 94)

Drink Date: 2015 – 2025

Date Tasted: July 12, 2016

Another inky black colored effort, the 2014 Syrah Block No 6 Purisima Mountain gives up lots of crème de cassis, crushed flowers, spice box and hints of chocolate in a full-bodied, pure, elegant package. Completely destemmed and aged 18 months in 55% new French oak, it shows plenty of fine grained tannin on the finish and will keep for a decade or more.

2013 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Block Six Syrah

Rating: 92

Drink Date: 2017 – 2024

Date Tasted: July 12, 2016

Lastly, and coming from a single block of Syrah vines from the estate Purisima Mountain Vineyard located at the top of Ballard Canyon, the 2013 Syrah Block No 6 Purisima Mountain gives up notes of liquid blackberries, cracked pepper, graphite and hints of crushed rock. Rich, inky colored, full-bodied and with bright acidity and fine tannin, it will be at its best from 2018-2025.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Grenache

Rating: 92

Drink Date: 2015 – 2020

Date Tasted: July 12, 2016

A suppler, more fruit-forward and sexy release than the whole cluster bottling, the 2014 Grenache Purisima Mountain Vineyard has terrific sweetness of fruit in its blackberry, pepper, crushed flower and baking spice-driven aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, sweetly fruited, rounded and downright sexy, drink it over the coming 4-5 years. Note, the blend for the 2014 is 88% Grenache and 12% Syrah, all of which saw 16 months in 15% new French oak puncheons.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah

Rating: 92

Drink Date: 2015 – 2021

Date Tasted: July 9, 2016

A fabulous value that delivers on all accounts, the inky colored 2014 Syrah Purisima Mountain (100% Syrah aged 16 months in 35% new French oak) knocks it out of the park with its ripe, decadent black fruits, barbecue smoke, licorice and smoked meat-laced aromas and flavors. Rich, fat and unctuous on the palate, with plenty of freshness and purity, it tastes like it costs two to three times the price.

2013 Cuvee le Bec

Rating: 90

Drink Date: 2015 – 2020

Date Tasted: July 10, 2016

Made from 45% Syrah, 40% Grenache, 8% Counoise and the rest Mourvedre, the 2013 Cuvee le Bec is a smokin' value and savvy readers should buy a case. Giving up lots of ripe dark fruits, ground herbs, licorice and wood smoke, it's ripe, mouthfilling and loaded with charm. Drink bottles over the coming 4-5 years.

2014 Cuvee le Bec

Rating: 90

Drink Date 2015 – 2019

Date Tasted: July 11, 2016

Leading off the reds and California's take on a quality Cotes du Rhône, the peppery, black and blue fruits and floral-scented 2014 Cuvee le Bec is plump, medium to full-bodied, rounded and beautifully textured on the palate. Drink it over the coming 2-4 years. Note, the blend here is 50% Syrah, 35% Grenache, 8% Mourvèdre and 7% Counoise, which spent 16 months in neutral oak barrels.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Grenache Whole Cluster

Rating: 90

Drink Date 2015 – 2020

Date Tasted: July 10, 2016

Possessing exotic slants in its ripe plum, blood orange, strawberry and peppery herb aromas and flavors, the 2014 Grenache Whole Cluster (100% Grenache fermented with 30% whole clusters) from the Purisima Mountain Vineyard hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, lots of fruit and a great finish. It too should have at least 4-5 years of prime drinking.

2014 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc

Rating: 90

Drink Date: 2015 – 2016

Date Tasted: July 10, 2016

Starting out and a terrific Sauvignon Blanc that offers lots of pretty, citrus, mint and floral aromas and flavors, the 2014 Sauvignon Blanc Purisima Mountain Vineyard is medium-bodied, pure and downright classy on the palate. It's a more fruit-driven effort that will drink nicely over the coming year.