



Wine Critic Reviews

2016 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah

The Tasting Panel | July/August 2019

94 points

“Deep ruby with a dense chocolate nose and velvety texture; rich, spicy, and intense with notes of chocolate, vanilla, plum, and blackberry. This unheralded producer of superb Rhône-style wines keeps turning out brilliant bottles.”

Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine | November 2018

94 points

“Santa Barbara County's Ballard Canyon AVA is proving to be an exceptional site for Syrah, and this bottling from Beckmen capably demonstrates what the excitement is all about. It is a big wine by any measure, and it makes no apologies for ripeness, but it is wonderfully deep in defined Syrah fruit and shows the heady richness and wide ranging spice that defines the variety at its best. What is more, it offers extraordinary value and is a wine that belongs at the top of the shopping lists of all who count themselves as serious fans of the grape.”

Vinous | By Antonio Galloni, September 2018

93 points

Drink 2020 - 2028

“The 2016 Syrah Purisima Mountain Vineyard is a blend of all the blocks on the property. Powerful and deep, the 2016 has quite a bit of tannic clout behind all the fruit. Today, the 2016 is naturally very primary, but it should be terrific with another few years in bottle. All of the elements are in place for that to happen.”

JebDunnuck | By Jeb Dunnuck, October 15, 2018

93 points

“The 2016 Syrah Purisima Mountain is a blend of 97% Syrah and 3% Viognier that was aged 16 months in 40% new French oak. Deep ruby/purple-colored, with attractive notes of black fruits, smoked herbs, bacon fat, and pepper, it's medium to full-bodied, ripe and polished, with tons of fruit as well as underlying structured and depth. It's a smoking Syrah as well as a great value. Drink 2018 - 2026.”

Wine Enthusiast | By Matt Kettmann, March 2019

92 points

“Lovely aromas of candied boysenberry, dark red cherry, crushed lavender, cracked white pepper and dried sage sticks show on the nose of this bottling from a vineyard located high above the Ballard Canyon appellation. There is a great freshness on the palate, where flavors of lavender and violet meet with peppery spice, berry fruit and a tarry edge.”

Decanter | By Matthew Luczy, September 2019

92 points

“Beckmen’s 125-acre Purisima Mountain Vineyard is a centrepiece of Ballard Canyon, and is now farmed completely biodynamically. The 2016 Syrah from this site displays a nose of ripe blue fruit, graphite and green peppercorns. The palate is muscular and powerful, with flavours of tobacco smoke, red plums and pottery clay. The wines finishes on a delicate note, with notes of dried herbs and cigar box. Drinkable now but best to let come into itself for a year or so. Drinking Window 2020 – 2030.”

California Grapevine | By Nick Ponomareff, April 2019

“2016 Beckmen Vineyards Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah, Ballard Canyon (\$32) Medium to medium-dark ruby; attractive, deep, intense, black cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with herbal and spicy notes and hints of black olive, black pepper, and dark chocolate; full body; big, deep, ripe, blue and black berry fruit flavors that are nicely balanced and showing some elegance, with hints of vanilla and toffee, and a full, rich mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very enjoyable to drink now, though also has the balance and structure for another three to five more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. 15.3% alcohol; 1,536 cases; 100% Syrah; released April 2018.”

Slow Wine Guide | April 2019

“The Purisima Mountain Syrah 2016 (21,600 bt; 24\$) showcases juicy, yet never jammy, fruit with a very slight hint of campfire smoke. Black plum, cola, blackberry, and a touch of cedar shine through. It has been proven in previous vintages to age beautifully.”

Chicago Daily Herald | By Mary Ross, June 19, 2019

Ross' choice

Availability: Chains and fine wine shops, \$32

Distributed by: Heritage Wine Cellars, Niles

“Slips across the palate like liquid velvet. Young tobacco and herb accents keep this intense wine from devolving into a fruit bomb. Powerful tannin outlines berry/ cherry/ plum flavor, while rich fruit extract softens any bitterness. Remarkably fresh for such a concentrated and powerful (15%+ alcohol!) wine.”