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WINE

# What To Drink Now: Dry Creek and Sonoma Valley

Dive into two of Sonoma County, California's tastiest wine regions

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With almost 60,000 acres of vineyards planted in the 1,700-square-mile region, growing grapes for more than 420 wineries, Sonoma County delivers a bit of everything, from cool climate Pinot Noir and Chardonnay to robust, fruit-forward Zinfandel, and concentrated Cabernet. This county is a wine lover's dream. There are a few upcoming events worth traveling west to enjoy, which highlight the uniqueness of the county. In May, Sonoma Valley hosts Signature Sonoma Valley, highlighting the history and style of the region, with a weekend of events, including a celebration of regional icons at Ram's Gate, an immersion vineyard experience at the historic Monte Rosso Vineyard, and a rare retrospective tasting at Laurel Glen Vineyard, tasting vintages dating back to 1981.

**Laurel Glen Vineyard began crafting Sonoma Valley mountain fruit Cabernet Sauvignon 50 years ago, though in the 1980s their Old World style Cabernet Sauvignon rose to prominence, thanks in part to the wine's restrained refinement. Today their vineyard is farmed completely organic.**

## LAUREL GLEN

### 2015 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

melds blackberry, black cherry, cedar, and bitter chocolate, with nicely integrated tannins. (\$90)

Laurel Glen is known for holding back cases of wine to allow for retrospective tastings, and the opportunity to release an older wine, revealing how bottle aging changes, enhances and effects the wine. The 2009 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon is softer than the current release, with ripe fruit notes becoming dried, and pepper spice notes becoming more pronounced while maintaining freshness and balance.

