

YEAR'S BEST US CABERNET & BLENDS





94 | Laurel Glen

2013 Sonoma Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon

This is formal, almost austere cabernet, with the same deep, black tannins that you find in many of the great 2013s from Napa Valley, just presented in a slightly cooler tone. At first, there's a pretty, foresty scent and an impression of dark mineral structure dammed up behind a layer of French oak. Give it a day of air, and its savory flavors explode, saturating the senses with smoky, woodsy spice that feels connected to the rocky volcanic soil and forests of Sonoma Mountain rather than oak barrels. It's massive yet refreshing, with floral detail in the end—a wine to keep in the cellar for at least a decade. -L.S.

(W&S 10/17; 1,039 cases)