



## Tasting Report: New World Cabernets

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Recently I tasted through a bunch of Cabernet Sauvignons from all across the New World. All wines were received as press samples and tasted blind. I didn't know anything about the wines except that they were New World cabs.

I was under the assumption I was sipping somewhat young cabernets, so I tried to give each wine some air time and swirling before finalizing my notes and unveiling the wines. This paid off, as many of the wines that smelled and tasted hesitant upon uncorking really opened up and became much more expressive. Cabernet, being such an age-worthy grape, can be tight and harsh when young, and most of these wines need three-to-five years to show their best stuff.

### **Review: 2007 Kachina Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Creek Valley**

*USA, California, Sonoma County, Dry Creek Valley*

\$42. It's not often I come across a California cabernet that so closely resembles Bordeaux. The aromas stand out because they play with both old and new world themes: red currants, raspberry jam, piles of wet leaves, fresh-cut cedar, smashed rocks, pickling spice, notes of dried flowers. On the palate, this wine shows fine tannins; combine that with tangy acid and waves of bright red fruit (again with the raspberry and red currant). Notes of cedar, bay leaf and red clay add complexity. It has elegance and earthiness, and is showing some of its secondary characteristics. I think this could be cellared for at least five years, especially if you like those aged Bordeaux flavors. A wine for new and old world lovers alike. Equal parts intellectual stimulation and hedonistic satisfaction. **(92 points IJB)**