

Anthony Dias

BLUE *REVIEWS*

In each issue, Editor-in-Chief Anthony Dias Blue selects a wide range of the best wines and spirits from among the more than 500 he samples over the course of a month. The reviews are subjective editorial evaluations, made without regard to advertising, and products are scored on a 100-point scale:

85-90: VERY GOOD

90-94: OUTSTANDING

95-100: CLASSIC

Once products are selected for publication, producers and importers will be offered the option of having their review accompanied by an image (bottle photo or label art) for a nominal fee. There is no obligation to add an image, nor does the decision affect the review or score in any way.

The “twisty” icon indicates wines sealed with a screwcap closure.

For additional Blue Reviews, go to www.tastingpanelmag.com.


DOMESTIC

90 Krupp Brothers Estates 2007 Marsanne, Black Bart, Stagecoach Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$35) Lush and creamy with minerals and smooth fruit; juicy with notes of vanilla oak; balanced, rich and fresh with length, depth and style.



89 Tangent 2008 Riesling, Paragon Vineyard, Edna Valley (\$17) Bright, minerally and dry with juicy peach and apple fruit; clean, balanced and nervy. 

BAILEYANA

90 Patianna Organic Vineyards 2008 Estate Sauvignon Blanc, Mendocino (\$18) Juicy biodynamic wine from the Fetzer family; fresh and smooth with clean, bright fruit and charming flavors. 

FETZER

90 Girard Winery 2008 Chardonnay, Russian River Valley (\$24) Lush and creamy with toasty oak, ripe peach and citrus fruit; rich but not heavy; sensual and long with balance and style.

WILSON DANIELS

90 Chalk Hill 2007 Pinot Gris, Russian River Valley (\$40) Smooth, dense and aromatic with rich flavors and notes of spice; complex, long and balanced.

90 Robert Craig 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, Mt. Veeder, Napa Valley (\$70) Smooth, spiced and showing plum, blackberry and cassis; long, velvety and rich with lovely balance and style.

92 Columbia Crest 2006 Reserve Merlot, Columbia Valley (\$22) Smooth and velvety with deep plum and black currant fruit riding on firm acid structure; a masterful wine that supports the idea that the best Merlots come from Washington State.

STE MICHELLE WINE ESTATES

90 Dutton-Goldfield 2007 Syrah, Cherry Ridge Vineyard, Russian River Valley (\$35) Rich and smooth with ripe blackberry and blueberry fruit; tangy acidity and fresh flavors; balanced and charming.

90 Saintsbury 2007 Syrah, Sawi Vineyard, Sonoma Valley (\$40) Smooth, lush and meaty with ripe blackberry, plum and cherry; spicy, complex and balanced with great length and style.

94 Testarossa Vineyards 2008 Pinot Noir, Sleepy Hollow Vineyard, Santa Lucia Highlands (\$59) Fragrant, smooth and complete with bright black cherry and lovely pure acidity; silky, classic and perfectly balanced; long, unctuous and stunning.