

FOOD & WINE American Wine Awards
Best Cabernet Sauvignon of 2007

BY RAY ISLE

New California Cabernet: 2005 Star Lane Cabernet Sauvignon (\$50) California's Santa Ynez Valley is principally associated with Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, but the far eastern end, which has substantially warmer temperatures than the rest of the region, seems to be ideal Cabernet Sauvignon territory—as evidenced by this satiny, cherry-inflected wine.



San Francisco Chronicle

Top 100 wines of 2008.

Star Lane Cabernet Sauvignon and Three Saints Cabernet Sauvignon

Star Lane Cabernet is listed under the very competitive Cabernet segment with such luminaries as Corison, Dominus, Pride, Spottswood, Quintessa and Obsidian. “Missouri banker Jim Dierberg's project in Happy Canyon is setting a high standard for Central Coast Cabernet. A serious, evocative wine, with loamy dark notes of mocha and leather, plus silky berry, perfumed plum and chewy, ripe tannins”.

91 STAR LANE VINEYARD Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Ynez Valley 2005

80% Cabernet Sauvignon; 15% Cabernet Franc; 5% Petit Verdot.

The Santa Ynez Valley is not the first district that comes to mind when thinking of *top-shelf Cabernet*, but this deep and densely fruited bottling is just that. From its concentrated nose of cassis, cream and loam to its extracted and incisively varietal flavors, *the wine hits all the right marks and* ends with a lengthy albeit moderately hot, tannic finish. A half decade of bottle age would be of benefit here.



2005 Star Lane Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Santa Ynez Valley, \$50
92 points

The Dierberg family worked hard before releasing this Cab, which comes from the warmest part of the appellation.

It's quite a good wine, soft and rich and immediately likeable for its array of black currant, licorice and mocha flavors. The 100% new French oak is just right in smoke and cedary vanilla. The next step is to build in layers of density and complexity, but this is a huge step forward for Santa Ynez Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. — S.H. (6/1/2008)



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By [Josh Raynolds](#)

2005 Star Lane Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Ynez Valley

(\$50) Ruby-red. Inky cherry and dark berry preserve aromas are complemented by sexy vanillin oak and baking spices. Plush dark fruit flavors verge on liqueur-like, with soft tannins adding gentle grip. Finishes with a good wallop of vanillin oak. As rich and sweet as this is, there's good structure and focus.

Excellent - recommended