

Wine & Spirits



YEAR'S BEST US CABERNET & BLENDS

Our blind panels tasted **779** new-release American cabernet sauvignon and cabernet blends over the past 12 months. Our critics rated **95** as exceptional (90+) and **29** as Best Buys. **Joshua Greene** covers Napa Valley; **Luke Sykora** covers the rest of California; **Patrick J. Comiskey** reviews Colorado and Washington wines. Find a complete list of wines tasted and all reviews at wineandspiritsmagazine.com.

Tracking Down American Terroir

92 | Amici

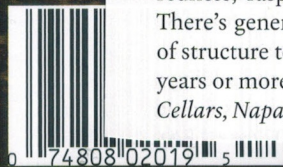
\$125

2010 Spring Mountain Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon Mountain-grown tannins provide some detail and complexity to this youthfully aggressive cabernet; they also completely dry out the mouth. Still hard after a day of air, they begin to allow red fruit to show in the middle, iron-like in its bloody redness, raspberry-like on its kinder side. There's generosity to that fruit, and plenty of structure to carry this in the cellar for ten years or more. (W&S 2/14; 200 cases) *Amici Cellars, Napa, CA*

90 | Amici

\$125

2010 Rutherford Napa Valley Morisoli Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Beefy with scents of black olive skin and tar, this is all tense tannins as a young wine. With air, its density begins to show a wild herb character, the power of the tannins needing five or six years to relent. This grows at a prime benchland site just south of Rubicon. (W&S 2/14; 100 cases) *Amici Cellars, Napa, CA*



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