



Groth

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

January 2022



SAUVIGNON BLANC

Napa Valley



Seven consecutive years of 90+ ratings



2020 Vintage | **93 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2020 Vintage | **92 pts**, **Smart Buy** Wine Spectator

2019 Vintage | **92 pts**, **Editors' Choice**, Wine Enthusiast

2018 Vintage | **92 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2017 Vintage | **92 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2016 Vintage | **91 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2015 Vintage | **90 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2014 Vintage | **91 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2020 NAPA VALLEY *Sauvignon Blanc*



93 pts

“This is a cohesive and succulent Sauvignon Blanc. It shows expressive layers of peach and pear alongside well-integrated acidity and a savory touch of brioche.”

— *Wine Enthusiast*

92 pts *Smart Buy*

“Ripe, juicy flavors of peach, apricot and mango are fleshy and appealing, with terrific intensity on the finish, where matcha green tea, spice and tangerine notes linger.”

— *Wine Spectator*

2019 NAPA VALLEY *Sauvignon Blanc*



92 pts, *Editors' Choice*

“With a hearty helping of 18% Semillon, this wine has a creamy, viscous entry adorned in jasmine. Lemon pith, grapefruit and tangerine present as lush and lengthy on the palate, balanced by fresh, persistent acidity.”

— *Wine Enthusiast*



CHARDONNAY

Hillview Vineyard, Napa Valley



Eight consecutive years of 90+ ratings



2020 Vintage | **91 pts**, James Suckling

2019 Vintage | **91 pts**, James Suckling, Wine Enthusiast

2018 Vintage | **90 pts**, Wine Spectator, Wine Enthusiast, James Suckling

2017 Vintage | **91 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2016 Vintage | **90 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2015 Vintage | **91 pts**, James Suckling

2014 Vintage | **91 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2013 Vintage | **91 pts**, Wine Enthusiast

2020 HILLVIEW VINEYARD *Chardonnay*



91 pts

“A succulent, round Chardonnay with nectarines, mangoes, dried jasmine, apple pie and vanilla custard on the nose. Medium-to full-bodied with a creamy palate. Sweet peach notes to close.”

— *James Suckling*

2019 HILLVIEW VINEYARD *Chardonnay*



91 pts

“Attractive aromas of peach, dried pineapple and shortbread. Lemon curd, too. It’s full-bodied with tangy acidity and a flinty finish.”

— *James Suckling*

2018 HILLVIEW VINEYARD *Chardonnay*



“Vibrant and well-structured, with a savory essence to the apple, pear and quince flavors.”

— *Wine Spectator*

“Attractive fresh pears and apples follow to a fresh palate with bright, pear-pastry and lemon flavors on offer.”

— *James Suckling*

90 pts, Wine Spectator

90 pts, Editors' Choice, Wine Enthusiast

90 pts, James Suckling



ESTATE WHITE

Oakville, Napa Valley





2020 ESTATE WHITE

92 pts

“Medium-bodied with fresh acidity and a textured, layered palate. Excellent focus and energy.”

— *James Suckling*

91 pts

“Distinctive, starting with green, grassy overtones to the core of lemon-lime flavors, expanding effortlessly into notes of sea salt, toasted herbs, orange blossom and candied ginger peel. Offers a succulent frame, with a hint of lanolin.”

— *Wine Spectator*



2019 ESTATE WHITE

“This is the first release, and while only 365 cases were produced, I expect it to become a major player in the world of high-end Napa whites if this initial vintage is any indication.”

— *Brian Freedman, Forbes*

“Nicely elegant, with pear, Fuji apple and lemon zest notes that are light and crisp, with a hint of fresh grated ginger on the refreshing finish.”

— *Wine Spectator*

93 pts, Wine Enthusiast

91 pts, Wine Spectator

91 pts, James Suckling



CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Oakville, Napa Valley



2018 OAKVILLE *Cabernet Sauvignon*



94 pts

“The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Oakville) is fabulous. Moreover, it shows the important strides that have been made here in recent years. A wine of depth as well as energy, the Oakville Cabernet is both complete and absolutely delicious. Time brings out a whole range of leather, spice and chocolate notes to play off a core of intense, dark-fleshed fruit. ... In a word: impressive.”

— *Antonio Galloni, Vinous*



2017 OAKVILLE *Cabernet Sauvignon*

“A gorgeous wine. Pliant and racy in the glass with striking depth, it offers terrific richness and intensity. ... It is the wine’s balance and overall sense of harmony that stand out the most. This flamboyant Cabernet is a real overachiever.”

— *Antonio Galloni, Vinous*

“Open and plush in feel, with a pretty, savory frame surrounding gently mulled plum and blackberry notes. Light tobacco and warm stone details chime on the finish.”

— *James Molesworth, Wine Spectator*

91 pts, Wine Spectator

91 pts, Antonio Galloni, vinous

91 pts, James Suckling

2016 OAKVILLE *Cabernet Sauvignon*



“Moving up into the valley, the Oakville AVA showed why it is hallowed ground. Home to prominent vineyards such as To Kalon, the AVA covers the breadth of the valley from east to west, resulting in some style differences. But the sweet spot is the center fillet around the Oakville Grade Road and up into the western edge. From here, the Groth Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville 2016 is **as good a deal as you can find in Napa Cabernet.**”

— *James Molesworth, Wine Spectator*

94 pts, Wine & Spirits

93 pts, Editors' Choice, Wine Enthusiast

93 pts, Highly Recommended, Decanter

92 pts, Wine Spectator and James Suckling



OAKCROSS PROPRIETARY RED

Oakville, Napa Valley



2019 OAKCROSS *Proprietary Red*



93 pts

“Black fruit, chocolate, cedar and dried spices on the nose. Medium-to full-bodied with fine tannins and fresh acidity. Balanced, with delicious chocolate-cherry character and a chalky texture.”

— *James Suckling*

2018 OAKCROSS *Proprietary Red*



“A new wine in this range, the 2018 Oakcross is a blend of 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot. Merlot adds mid-palate sumptuousness to this gorgeous Oakville red blend. Silky and racy to the core, but with plenty of tannins to support it all, the Oakcross has a ton to offer. Dark plum, espresso, licorice, spice and cedar linger nicely.”

— *Antonio Galloni, Vinous*

94 pts, Antonio Galloni

93 pts, James Suckling

92 pts, Wine Spectator



RESERVE CABERNET

Oakville, Napa Valley





2018 RESERVE *Cabernet Sauvignon*

“This has the vivid, driven cassis, boysenberry and blackberry fruit of the vintage, but it’s well-harnessed, with streaks of racy anise, alder and sweet bay leaf providing focus and precision. There’s a long echo of iron and savory through the finish as the fruit lingers, leaving a mouthwatering feel. Understated in style compared with its colleagues, but no less complex.”

— *James Molesworth, Wine Spectator*

“A gorgeous, classically built wine, the Reserve is just fabulous today. Dark red-toned fruit, cedar, spice and mocha lend considerable energy as the 2018 gradually opens in the glass.”

— *Antonio Galloni, Vinous*

96 pts, Wine Spectator

96 pts, Antonio Galloni, Vinous



2017 RESERVE *Cabernet Sauvignon*

“This is really beautiful with raspberry, blackberry and blueberry aromas and flavors. It’s full-to-medium-bodied with firm, integrated tannins and a beautiful finish. Shows lots of finesse and polish in the texture.”

— *James Suckling*

“Features overt cherry, plum and raspberry fruit flavors, gilded with anise and mesquite hints. Maintains good energy thanks to fresh acidity through the finish, revealing a long echo of savory and iron. Inviting now, but suitable for cellaring.”

— *James Molesworth, Wine Spectator*

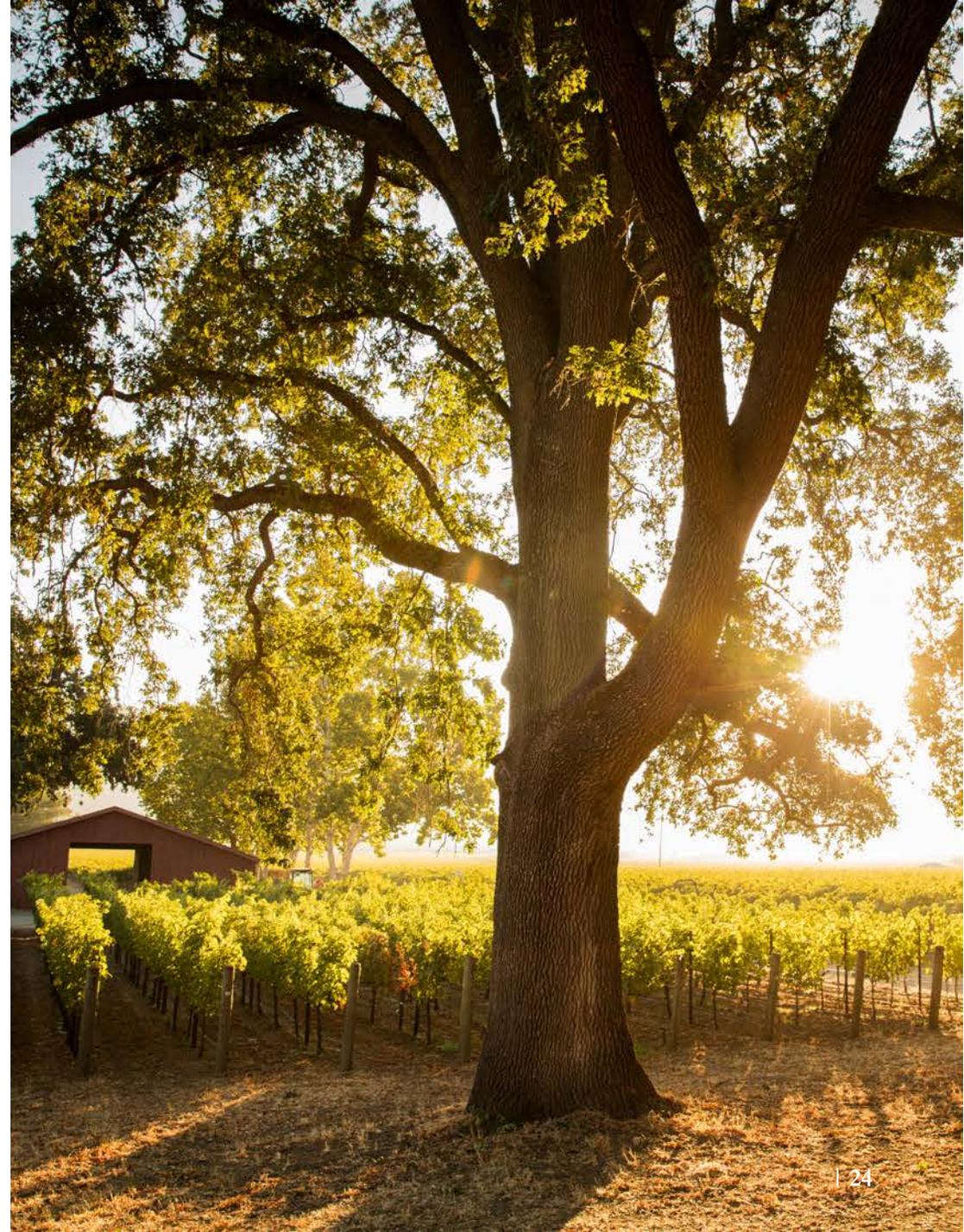
94 pts, James Suckling

93 pts, Wine Spectator



WINE SPECTATOR

Top 100 Wines



TOP 100 WINES OF 2019: *Groth ranks No. 4*



>> To view Wine Spectator's video announcing the No. 4 ranking, [click here](#).

TOP 100 WINES OF 2019: *Groth ranks No. 4*

TOP 10 OF 2019



Groth

Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Reserve 2016

96
Score

\$150
Price

4,800
Cases Made

Groth owns 121 acres smack in the middle of Napa's coveted Oakville AVA. Founded by Dennis and Judy Groth in 1982, the Oakville estate has endured some ups and downs, including a large-scale replant that resulted in the absence of a Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve from its lineup from 2000 to 2004. The vineyard is now in its prime, and the reserve blocks total 27.5 acres, generating a focused and refined Cabernet with an intense, fruit-driven core. Winemaker Cameron Parry ferments in stainless steel and presses before full dryness, lending a sweet fruit quality to the wine. He then ages it in 100 percent new oak for 22 months.

TOP 100 WINES: *Eight appearances for Groth*



1985 Reserve Cabernet | **No. 19** in 1990, **95 pts**

1990 Reserve Cabernet | **No. 20** in 1994, **94 pts**

1991 Oakville Cabernet | **No. 95** in 1994, **90 pts**

1992 Reserve Cabernet | **No. 2** in 1996, **98 pts**

1992 Oakville Cabernet | **No. 37** in 1995, **91 pts**

1994 Reserve Cabernet | **No. 11** in 1998, **96 pts**

1997 Oakville Cabernet | **No. 79** in 2000, **92 pts**

2016 Reserve Cabernet | **No. 4** in 2019, **96 pts**





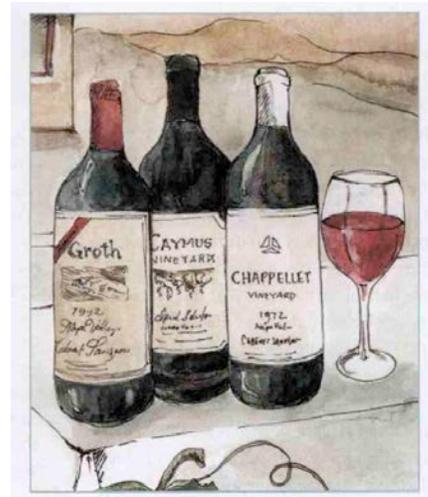
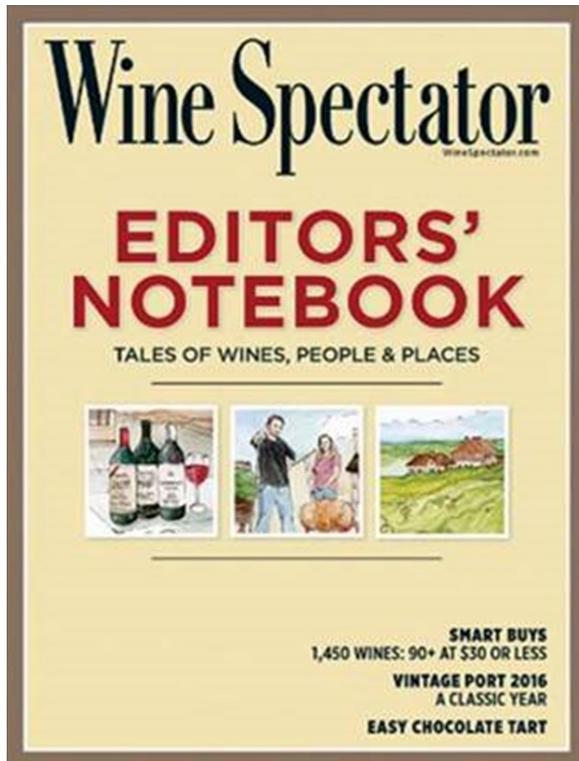
GENERAL PRESS



WINE SPECTATOR: *Ageability*

“I splurged on a bottle of **Groth Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Reserve** from 1992, a sneaky good year. ... This wine was perfectly on point for me. ... Singed herb and wood notes provided detail to the mature currant fruit core, with a whiff of smoke curling through the finish.”

— James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*
February 2019



WINE SPECTATOR: *California Cabernet Report*



“Moving up into the valley, the Oakville AVA showed why it is hallowed ground. Home to prominent vineyards such as To Kalon, the AVA covers the breadth of the valley from east to west, resulting in some style differences. **But the sweet spot is the center fillet around the Oakville Grade Road and up into the western edge. From here, the Groth Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville 2016 (92, \$65) is as good a deal as you can find in Napa Cabernet, offering a hint of singed savory and a core of raspberry and mulberry fruit lined with alluring tea, sanguine and iron notes.”**

— *James Molesworth, Wine Spectator*



GROTH

Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Reserve 2016

Score: 96 | \$150

WS Review: This delivers a very tightly focused, almost piercing beam of cassis, raspberry coulis and bitter cherry fruit. Long and refined.

FEATURE: *Stirring the Lees with James Molesworth*



STIRRING THE LEES WITH JAMES MOLESWORTH

Groth at the Cross Road

A vertical tasting of Groth's Cabernet Napa Reserve back to the 1980s reveals consistency and growth

James Molesworth

Apr 24, 2019

After my visit at Ovid, atop Pritchard Hill, I stuck to the valley floor for my next. The differences couldn't be starker, but it's that dichotomy that makes Napa Cabernet so fascinating. Ovid has 15 acres of vines struggling on scraggy volcanic rock.

At Groth, located on the filet mignon of Napa Valley, the Oakville Cross Road, there are 121 acres of vines seemingly gorging themselves on deep loam and gravel. And yet both make compelling wines.

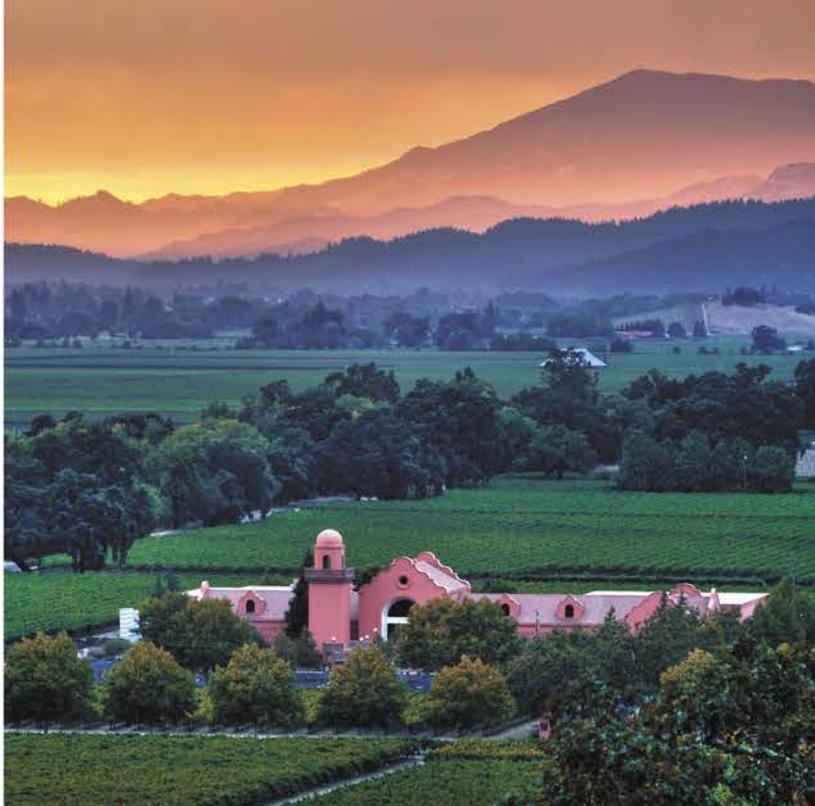
>> *To read the full article and view a video clip of James Molesworth's visit to Groth, [click here](#).*

When Dennis and Judy Groth bought a property in Napa Valley in 1981, it was meant to be a retirement spot. Dennis was working in the Bay Area for Atari during its heyday, and he didn't know anything about farming, but he did like the property, which had some vines planted by Justin Meyer in the early '70s. As Groth kicked around during his spare time he hired Ben Benson to replace the fading vines and expand the vineyard a bit. The plan was to sell off the fruit. A small amount was bottled under the Groth name, debuting in 1982. A second property of 44 acres was purchased that same year.

But when Atari crashed in the mid-80s, the "retirement" plan was accelerated, and Groth moved his family up to Napa. And when the market for buying grapes didn't materialize the way Groth expected,

plan B became to make all the wine themselves. By 1985, with Nils Venge as winemaker, Groth was cranking out 30,000 cases of wine. A winery was built in 1990 to keep up with the growing production and in '94 Michael Weis replaced Venge as winemaker. Weis oversaw another large-scale replanting started in 1998 during which time production dropped. By 2001 the vineyard was back on an upward trajectory. ...

It was Venge who isolated the first reserve block for its potential for Cabernet. There is some soil variation on the site, and a cooler corner where Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon are grown. There's some Merlot, too. But it's the Reserve blocks (there are now two) that have earned Groth its reputation. The reserve blocks total 27.5 acres — nearly twice the total of Ovid's entire vineyard.



Groth

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*750 Oakville Cross Road
Oakville, California, 94562 USA*

