

CONNOISSEURS' GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA WINE



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🌸 89 MACLAREN Moaveni Vineyard Syrah Bennett Valley 2013
 If by no means a Syrah that runs headlong to ripeness and a wine that for the most part hews to MacLarens's model of restraint, this well-defined, solidly varietal effort stands as the richest and best-filled of its family. Its themes of red and black berries are laced with herbs and peppery spice, and, while it is balanced to firmness, the wine is never stiff or austere and fruit stays central throughout. Its nominal tannins will ease with age, and it will emerge as a complete and polished Syrah some five or six years down the line.
 \$45.00
 Reviewed: [July 2016](#)

🌸 87 MACLAREN Samantha's Vineyard Syrah Russian River Valley 2013
 On the restrained side when it comes to evident ripeness and never a wine that plays to extremes, this mid-sized Syrah nonetheless does a nice job at displaying the variety's spicy, berry-like fruit. It is balanced to firmness after a rounded palatal start, and, if lacking big muscles, it shows fine continuity and length with the potential to gain in refinement over the next four or five years.
 \$40.00
 Reviewed: [July 2016](#)

86 MACLAREN Drouthy Neebors Syrah Sonoma County 2013
 Very much in the MacLaren clan insofar as it is both rounded in feel and yet fairly narrow in terms of flavor, the 2013 Drouthy Neebors is not quite as keen in focus as the winery's best efforts and it stints a bit on central fruit. It is firmed by nominal tannins but is not especially astringent, and three or four years of age should see it through to its best.
 \$40.00
 Reviewed: [July 2016](#)

85 MACLAREN Atoosa's Vineyard Syrah Russian River Valley 2013
 Sparing in fruit and smelling as much of stems and stalks as it does anything else, this tightly wound wine is fairly dry at its heart and comes up a touch short on richness and fruity depth at every stop. It is structured to last yet lacks the essential stuffing needed to encourage optimistic keeping and is unlikely to shine in the future.
 \$40.00
 Reviewed: [July 2016](#)