

Napa Valley Soars: The 2023 - 2024 Dakota Shy Cabernet Sauvignons

After three very challenging years, Napa Valley soars with the 2023 and 2024 Cabernet Sauvignons. The two vintages are quite different in style, and yet quality is very high in both years. In 2023, a long, cool growing season yielded young wines of exceptional finesse. Not to be outdone, the warmer 2024 vintage has a lot to offer as well. At some properties, the 2024s will challenge or surpass the 2023s.

Vintage	Name	Notes	Window	Price	Date
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley)	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley) is a fine entry-level offering in this range. Juicy dark blue/purplish berries, espresso, mocha, licorice and chocolate are front and center. Juicy and bold, the 2023 offers tons of immediacy and a mid-weight, stylish package.	2025 - 2033	\$110	Nov 2025
SCORE 90					
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Moulds Family Vineyard	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Moulds Family Vineyard is a super classic wine from this site. Inky dark fruit, gravel, incense, dried herbs, graphite and chocolate lend tons of savory complexity. Bright acids and beams of supporting tannin shape this structured Oak Knoll Cabernet.	2027 - 2038	\$165	Nov 2025
SCORE 96					
2023	Cabernet Franc Oakville Ranch Vineyard	The 2023 Cabernet Franc Oakville Ranch Vineyard is stellar. Deeply pitched aromatics meld into a core of red/purplish fruit, blood orange, pomegranate, cinnamon and new leather. This potent Oakville Franc delivers on all counts. Even with all of its obvious concentration and textural depth, the 2023 screams with varietal character, especially in its aromatics. It's a gorgeous, deeply expressive wine from Dakota Shy.	2027 - 2038	\$195	Nov 2025
SCORE 96					
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Melanson Vineyard	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Melanson Vineyard is a gorgeous, super expressive wine. Lifted aromatics lead into a core of vibrant red-toned fruit. This is a pretty soft wine from this site, where Cabernets can often be more tannic. Rose petal, cinnamon and red cherry jam all meld together effortlessly. I imagine the 2023 will drink well with just a few years in bottle.	2027 - 2038	\$185	Nov 2025
SCORE 95					
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas is quite the powerhouse. Strong savory notes of black olive and earth join floral tones in a strong opening statement. Huge swaths of tannin wrap it all up in style. Readers should expect a potent, virile wine endowed with tons of structure. The 2023 is a gorgeous wine, but it is also a wine that requires a bit of palate adjustment, as it is quite savory relative to the other wines in the range.	2027 - 2038	\$185	Nov 2025
SCORE 96					

Napa Valley Soars: The 2023 - 2024 Dakota Shy Cabernet Sauvignons

After three very challenging years, Napa Valley soars with the 2023 and 2024 Cabernet Sauvignons. The two vintages are quite different in style, and yet quality is very high in both years. In 2023, a long, cool growing season yielded young wines of exceptional finesse. Not to be outdone, the warmer 2024 vintage has a lot to offer as well. At some properties, the 2024s will challenge or surpass the 2023s.

Vintage	Name	Notes	Window	Price	Date
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Steltzner Vineyard	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Steltzner Vineyard is classy, elegant and polished, just as it was last year. It's not a big wine, as many are in this range, but rather a Cabernet Sauvignon that impresses with its exquisite balance and class. Perfectly ripe, seamless tannins add to a feeling of total finesse.	2027 - 2038	\$185	Nov 2025
SCORE 90					
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Switchback Ridge	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Switchback Ridge is a bit closed today, but it offers tons of aromatic nuance and plenty of character. Strong floral and savory notes open first. Rose petal, blood orange, mint, dried herbs and pomegranate give this deceptively mid-weight Cabernet a good deal of dimension. Today, the Switchback Ridge is rather shy. I look forward to tasting again down the road.	2027 - 2038	\$165	Nov 2025
SCORE 97					
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Social Currency	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Social Currency is quite the powerhouse. Inky dark fruit, chocolate, leather, licorice and dried herbs are all dialed up. This potent, flamboyant Cabernet Sauvignon packs a pretty impressive punch. Blackberry jam, espresso and bittersweet chocolate are some of the many notes that build overtime. There's a bit more new oak impact here relative to the other wines in the range, but that approach works well with the wine's extroverted style.	2027 - 2038	NA	Nov 2025
SCORE 96					
2023	Cabernet Sauvignon Shy Series - Bale Mill Creek	The 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon Shy Series - Bale Mill Creek is one of the most refined wines in this range. This is classic St. Helena all the way. Silky tannins wrap around a core of vibrant red-toned fruit. Red cherry jam, pomegranate, blood orange, and spice take shape with a bit of time in the glass. Floral overtones build into the long, sustained finish. This is impeccably done.	2027 - 2038	\$195	Nov 2025
SCORE 97					