



2022 ALMA DE CATTLEYA CABERNET SAUVIGNON

When we tasted this wine blind, we were sure it cost in the neighborhood of \$100. All sorts of aromas swept up out of the glass—exotic spices, cherries, incense, vanilla, sea salt, cranberries, cedar, plums, and on and on. After such intriguing aromas, it was almost as if the wine dared you to taste it. But the flavors were just as sensational. Layer after layer of deliciousness. And then the real shocker: the wine’s texture. Very young Cabernet (and this is a 2022) often has unyielding tannin—“steel door tannin” I call it. That sort of tannin is evident in lots of 2022 Cabernets in Napa, although many will unfurl themselves with time. But the Alma de Cattleya? Soft and silky while still structured. This is a very alive and lively, textured, and fascinating Cabernet. Just what you might need some Saturday evening soon. Alma de Cattleya (alma is the Spanish word for soul; cattleya, an orchid, is the national flower of Colombia) is owned by the winemaker Bibiana González Rave, known for her small production artisanal wines.

— Karen Macneil

95 POINTS