

melville



2014 Melville • Syrah Donna's - 97

Even better, with more depth, density and ripeness, the 2014 Syrah Donna's offers overflowing notes of olive tapenade, salted beef, licorice, black olive, peppery herbs and cured meats, with tons of ripe currants, fresh plum and smoked black cherry fruit. Full-bodied, elegant and seamless, with fabulous purity and persistence...

2014 Melville • Syrah Estate - 95

I always love the two blockbuster Syrahs from this estate, both of which need to be sought out by readers. Tons of black olive, smoked and salted meats, as well as ripe dark fruits all emerge from the incredibly polished, elegant and layered 2014 Syrah Estate, which is just an off the hook value. Inky colored, layered, yet graceful and light on its feet, with gorgeous fruit, drink this beauty over the coming 4-5 years, although I wouldn't be surprised to see it evolve for longer.

2014 Melville • Pinot Noir Terraces - 95

The silky and finesse-oriented 2014 Pinot Noir Terraces (60% destemmed and aged 14 months in neutral oak) offers tons of dried flowers, spice, red currants and sweet cherry fruit in a medium-bodied, nicely textured and polished style. Like the Indigene, it has no shortage of building tannin, but is impeccably balanced. This is a beautiful wine that will be better in another year and will have a decade of longevity.

2014 Melville • Pinot Noir Sandy's - 95

Kirsch, dried flowers, dried soils, and spice box flow from the silky, pure, polished and elegant 2014 Pinot Noir Sandy's, which saw 30% whole cluster during fermentation and 14 months in neutral barrels. I love its complexity, as well as its seamless, silky texture, and while it's already hard to resist, it will evolve beautifully through 2024.

2014 Melville • Pinot Noir Clone 115 Indigene - 94

The 2014 Pinot Noir Clone 115 Indigene is straight up gorgeous, and was completely destemmed and aged 14 months in neutral oak. Rich, textured, mouth coating and textured, with low acidity and decadent notes of ripe black cherries, ground herbs, game and salty minerality, it has no hard edges, tons of sweet fruit and a balanced, layered, hedonistic style that makes you want to drink another glass. Enjoy it over the coming 4-6 years.

2014 Melville • Pinot Noir Block M - 91+

Red currants, dried rose petals, cured meats and savory herbs all emerge from the 2014 Pinot Noir Block M, which is medium-bodied, elegant and supple on the palate, yet has a solid kick of savory tannin that gives me pause. There's lots of tannin here, and it needs 2-3 years of cellaring to come together.

2014 Melville • Pinot Noir Estate - 90

Spice box, wild herbs, black currants and black cherry notes all emerge from this nicely fruited, plump, mouth-filling 2014 Pinot Noir Estate, which has present tannin and a solid finish. Mostly destemmed and aged 11 months in neutral barrels, it's a good value and will drink well for 4-5 years.

2015 Melville • Chardonnay Estate Inox - 91

The top chardonnay of the estate and one that's aged all in stainless steel, the 2015 Chardonnay Estate Inox (aged six months in tank) offers a fabulous perfume of pears, spiced apple, citrus blossom and a touch of mint to go with a surprisingly textured and layered style on the palate. I normally prefer the straight chardonnay to this release, but in 2015, this cuvee has a terrific sense of balance and freshness paired with true texture and richness. It should keep nicely for a decade or more.