

# Featured in the April/May 2024 Somm Journal Cabernet Sauvignon - *organically grown* 93 points

{ cab academy }

## The Standout Cabs of the Alexander Valley AVA

PART THREE OF OUR SALUTE TO THE REGION'S  
WINE LEADERS

**EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT TRAVELING** to Sonoma County in May to be part of the installment of this series on the best it has to offer.  
**Alexander Valley Cabernet Academy**, you can get a taste of the AVA with the last Pacific that passes through the Petaluma River and the marine layer from the night, experience foggy mornings, and are warmed by the sun during the day. The resulting Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignons have a common thread of plush tannins, vivid fruit, and fine acid structure.

The following wines have captivated us, tasting of sun-drenched days kissed by the Pacific breeze.

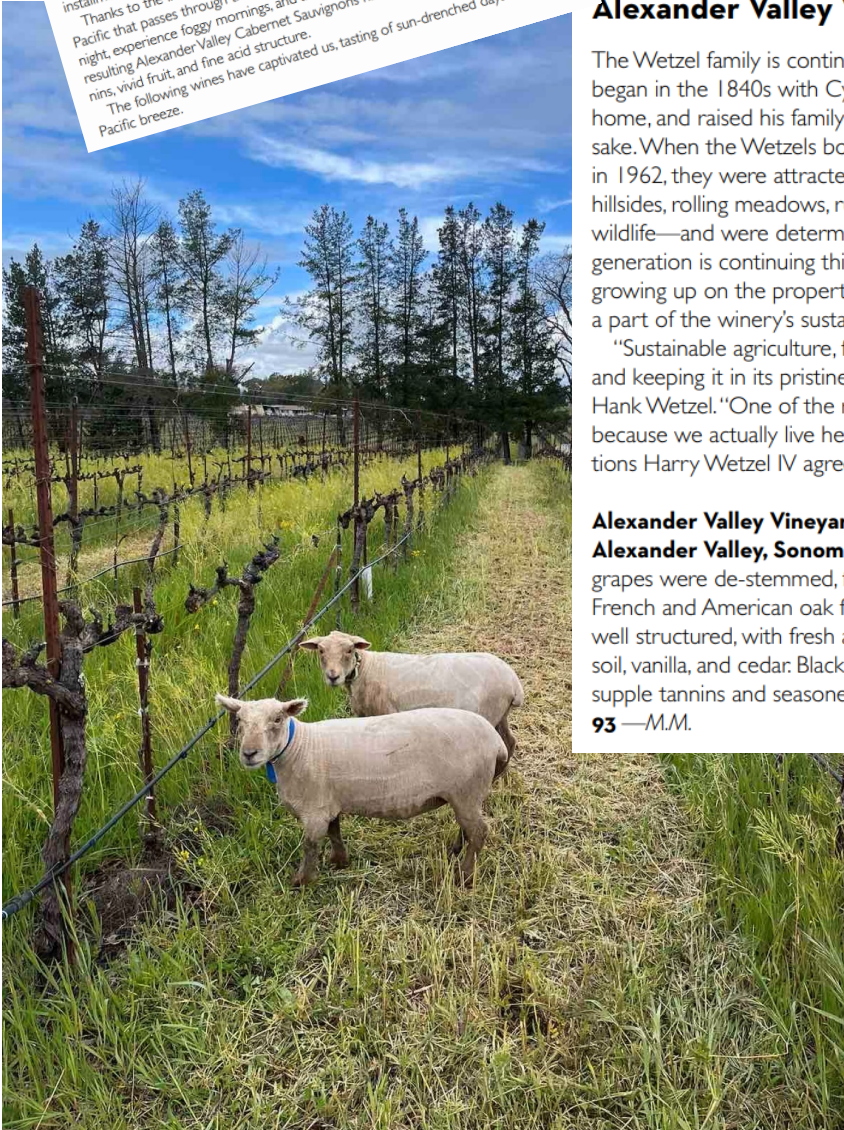
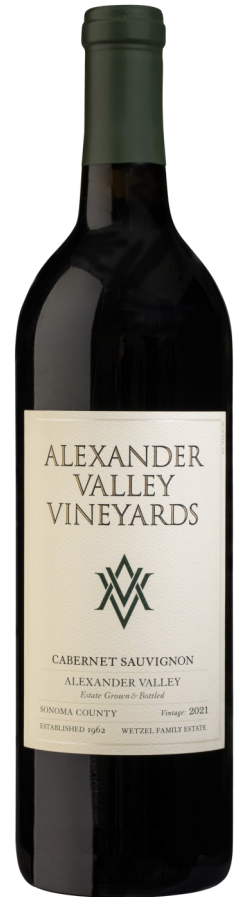


### Alexander Valley Vineyards

The Wetzel family is continuing a tradition of family farming that began in the 1840s with Cyrus Alexander, who settled, built his home, and raised his family in the valley that's now his name-sake. When the Wetzels bought their Alexander Valley property in 1962, they were attracted by its natural beauty—rugged hillsides, rolling meadows, rushing winter creeks, and plentiful wildlife—and were determined to protect it. Today, the third generation is continuing this legacy as the fourth generation is growing up on the property they all love; organic farming is just a part of the winery's sustainability efforts.

"Sustainable agriculture, for me, means taking care of the land and keeping it in its pristine state," says third-generation owner Hank Wetzel. "One of the reasons I want us to farm that way is because we actually live here on the property." Head of operations Harry Wetzel IV agrees: "It is the right thing to do."

**Alexander Valley Vineyards 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley, Sonoma County (\$34)** Organically grown grapes were de-stemmed, fermented, and aged in (48% new) French and American oak for 26 months. Mouthwatering and well structured, with fresh and lively fruit and rich notes of soil, vanilla, and cedar. Black cherry and cassis are amped up by supple tannins and seasoned with clove and gingered cranberry. **93** —M.M.



**100% Cabernet Sauvignon  
Clones 4, 6, 337**

**CCOF certified organic vineyard**

**Cave aged for 26 months in  
French & American oak barrels**

**12 bottle case**



*Our family creates wines of distinction for everyone.*

Healdsburg - Sonoma County - California

[avvwine.com](http://avvwine.com)

