

2020 PENLEY ESTATE HELIOS CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Penley.

Review Summary

97 pts "Small batches of the best parcels of fruit, matured separately in French oak for 18 months (30% new). Blackberry pie on the nose, this is concentrated and pure in its expression of both Coonawarra (black fruit, eucalyptus and ferrous) and exotic spice. On the palate the tannins are pronounced, and they certainly impact the fruit, but it is clear from the sheer volume of flavor that swells in the mouth that they will be no match in time. They will recede into the tidal wave of flavor and serve only to carry and guide the fruit through the finish, as Helios' chariot drove him across the sky. Inchoate as this is, it will emerge a superstar."

Erin Larkin Halliday Wine Companion August 2022

95 pts "I last tasted the 2020 Helios Cabernet Sauvignon in early 2022 (12 months ago now, or thereabouts), and I remember clearly the tannins that were firm and pervasive. Today, they are not lessened by the passage of time, but neither is the fruit that rides upon them. This is a seriously savory, very substantial Cabernet Sauvignon that will cellar very well over the coming decades. From its clear reticence to budge over the past year, one assumes it will take some time to emerge from this very young stage."

Erin Larkin Robert Parker Wine Advocate April 2023

92 pts "This has a leafy character with blackberries and blackcurrants, as well as notes of black olives and bark. Medium-bodied with a delicate, blue-fruited character. Fine-grained, chalky tannins. Polished and easy to drink. Vegan. Drink now."

JamesSuckling.com December 2022