

Pahlmeyer

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

USA, California:
Napa Valley - Part 1:
On the 2015s, 2016s & Making Luck.



“The very talented winemaker from Pahlmeyer’s sister winery in Sonoma—Bibiana Gonzalez Rave of Wayfarer—has recently been appointed as Chief Winemaker at Pahlmeyer. 2016 was her first vintage here.”

2016 Pahlmeyer Cabernet Sauvignon Piece de Resistance - 95-97 points

Produced from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Piece de Resistance has a very deep garnet-purple color and a profound nose of crème de cassis and plum preserves with hints of dark chocolate, Indian spices, cedar and black loam. Full-bodied and packed with black fruit and spice layers, with its almost (but not quite) formidable tannins, it is built like a brick house and should age very well indeed. This is not a wine for the delicate flower-power drinkers or the faint of heart!

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown

2016 Pahlmeyer Cabernet Sauvignon Raison D'Etire - 94-96 points

Composed of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon and 17% Cabernet Franc, the very deep purple-black colored 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Raison D'Etire has a lovely mélange of red and black fruit expressions, with intense red and black currant notes over suggestions of incense, menthol, dried herbs and spice box. Full-bodied and firmly structured in the mouth, the palate reveals real finesse and freshness, cutting through the intense berry and spice layers, finishing long with some earthy notes coming through.

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown

2016 Pahlmeyer Chardonnay - 95 points

The 2016 Chardonnay has a lovely savory, yeasty/toasty nose over a core of warm grapefruit, fresh apricots and allspice with a touch of candied ginger. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers mouth-filling stone fruit and spicy layers, supported by great freshness and finishing long and creamy.

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown

2016 Pahlmeyer Chardonnay Savoir Faire - 95-97+ points

The 2016 Chardonnay Savoir Faire reveals a beautiful floral nose of honeysuckle and orange blossoms over white peaches, yuzu, lemon curd and struck match. Medium-bodied, finely crafted, very refreshing and elegant, the wonderful intensity is well matched by a lively backbone, silken texture and very long finish. Gorgeous.

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown

2016 Pahlmeyer Merlot - 94-96 points

Very deep purple-black in color, the 2016 Merlot has a blockbuster nose of crushed blackberries, warm black plums, violets, cracked pepper and vanilla pod with hints of dark chocolate, licorice and bay leaves. Full-bodied, rich, concentrated and with firm, velvety tannins, the palate is a hedonist's playground with a spicy finish that just goes on and on.

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown

2016 Pahlmeyer Proprietary Red Wine - 95-97 points

Blended of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc, 5% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 2% Malbec, the 2016 Proprietary Red Wine has an inky-purple color and nose of crushed blackcurrants, baked blackberries and mocha with touches of sandalwood, pencil shavings and Marmite toast. Full-bodied, rich and full-on seductive, it fills the mouth with pure black fruit and spicy layers, framed by firm, fully ripe, fine-grained tannins and wonderful freshness, finishing long and opulent.

- Lisa Perrotti-Brown