

Dakota Shy

Tom Garrett and Todd Newman draw from various sites across Napa Valley for this stellar collection of Cabernets. The Dakota Shy wines are rich and resonant, while also conveying tons of site character. I find the wines a bit more vibrant than in the early years (which was not that long ago), with better integration of oak and finer overall balance.

From [Napa Valley's Thrilling 2018s & 2019s, Parts 1 & 2 \(Jan 2021\)](#) by Antonio Galloni

| <u>Vintage</u> | <u>(Hover for Commentary) Producer</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Tasting Notes</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>Author</u> | <u>Drinking Window</u> | <u>Release Price</u> |
|----------------|--|--|--|--------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2018 | Dakota Shy | Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley) | The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley) is a terrific introduction to these wines. Creamy, ample and so expressive, the 2018 captures all of the allure of the year in its sensual personality. Inky dark fruit, spice, licorice, menthol and chocolate literally race out of the glass. This is impressive. -- Antonio Galloni | 93 | Antonio Galloni | 2024 - 2038 | \$95.00 |
| 2018 | Dakota Shy | Cabernet Sauvignon Melanson Vineyard | The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Melanson Vineyard is a tiny bottling of just four barrels. Graphite, scorched earth, menthol, licorice, plum, tobacco and spice add to a feeling of gravitas. This brooding Cabernet is going to need a few years to fully come together. It is so impressive, even in the early going. | 96+ | Antonio Galloni | 2026 - 2043 | \$175.00 |

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| -- Antonio Galloni | | | | | | | |
| 2018 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Moulds Family Vineyard</u> | The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Moulds Family Vineyard should drink well with minimal cellaring. Soft, silky and pliant for a young Cabernet, the Moulds is beautifully perfumed right out of the bottle. I imagine more complexity will develop over time. Today, it is the wine's immediacy that is most striking. The Moulds has really come together well over the last year. | 94 | Antonio Galloni | 2026 - 2038 | \$150.00 |
| -- Antonio Galloni | | | | | | | |
| 2018 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas</u> | The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas is a beautifully complete wine that marries fruit richness with savory intensity. Dark red cherry, iron, cedar, white pepper and leather give the 2018 a brilliant top register that carries through to the finish. Hints of cherry, blood orange, mocha and rose petal linger. The 2018 is exquisitely beautiful. That's all there is to it. | 96 | Antonio Galloni | 2026 - 2043 | \$175.00 |
| -- Antonio Galloni | | | | | | | |
| 2018 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Franc Oakville Ranch Vineyard</u> | The 2018 Cabernet Franc Oakville Ranch Vineyard is a wild, exotic wine. Floral aromatics open first, followed by layers of red-toned fruit. Bright acids - so typical of this site - add energy and vibrancy throughout. The 2018 is quite rich, yet it also remains | 96 | Antonio Galloni | 2026 - 2043 | \$195.00 |

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| | | | wonderfully light on its feet. This is another stellar effort from Dakota Shy. The blend is 75% Cabernet Franc and 25% Cabernet Sauvignon. -- Antonio Galloni | | | | |
| 2018 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Social Currency</u> | The 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Social Currency is rich and voluptuous, with no hard edges and plenty of immediacy. Inky dark fruit, crème de cassis, licorice, cloves, leather and chocolate abound. In this tasting, the Social Currency offers a bit less complexity than the other wines in the range, while the alcohol is a bit pronounced. I liked this more from barrel. Social Currency was initially offered in magnums, but there is now a small production of standard 750ml bottles as well. (Price is for the magnum bottle.) -- Antonio Galloni | 92 | Antonio Galloni | 2024 - 2033 | \$495.00 |
| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley)</u> | The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley) is soft, pliant and wonderfully inviting, with terrific energy that adds brightness to the red/purplish berry fruit, spice and rose petal flavors. This mid-weight, vibrant Cabernet is a terrific introduction to the year. -- Antonio Galloni | (90-92) | Antonio Galloni | | \$95.00 |

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| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Franc Oakville Ranch Vineyard</u> | <p>The 2019 Cabernet Franc Oakville Ranch Vineyard is a fabulous example of what this site offers. Dark cherry fruit, plum, chocolate, mocha, cloves and licorice fill out the layers as this creamy, resonant wine shows off its allure. The 2019 is deep and so expressive. The barrel sample I tasted (prior to racking and final blending) was 100% Cabernet Franc, but the finished wine will be 75% Cabernet Franc and 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, the same blend as the 2018. Tom Garrett told me he thinks the 75/25 ratio is ideal for Oakville Ranch, whereas he finds a higher percentage of Franc (sometimes significantly higher) works best for his Detert wines.</p> <p>-- Antonio Galloni</p> | (92-95) | Antonio Galloni | | \$195.00 |
| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Moulds Family Vineyard</u> | <p>The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Moulds Family Vineyard captures all of the savory intensity and nuance of this Oak Knoll site. It is a bit lithe in feel relative to the other wines in this range, but makes up for that with its persistence and fine overall balance. Hints of chocolate, spice, leather and scorched earth complement the dark-toned fruit nicely.</p> <p>-- Antonio Galloni</p> | (92-95) | Antonio Galloni | | \$150.00 |

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| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas</u> | The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Atlas is suave, silky and beautifully perfumed, with more of a red-toned profile than is seen in most of these wines. Cedar, mint, cinnamon and dried flowers add aromatic nuance as this mid-weight, expressive Cabernet gains power and resonance over time. -- Antonio Galloni | (92-95) | Antonio Galloni | | \$175.00 |
| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Melanson Vineyard</u> | Another gorgeous wine in the range, the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Melanson Vineyard is inky, creamy and super-expressive right out of the gate. There's real textural depth and resonance here. Deep savory and mineral notes round out this potent hillside Cabernet. The 2019 is wonderfully complex and so promising as a barrel sample. -- Antonio Galloni | (93-96) | Antonio Galloni | | \$175.00 |
| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Bale Mill Creek (formerly The Custorian)</u> | The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Bale Mill Creek (formerly The Custorian) is one of the more mid-weight wines in this lineup. Red/purplish berry fruit, lavender, spice and mocha show quite a bit of brightness as this finessed Cabernet gives all it has to offer. -- Antonio Galloni | (93-96) | Antonio Galloni | | Not Available |

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| 2019 | <u>Dakota Shy</u> | <u>Cabernet Sauvignon Social Currency</u> | The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Social Currency is a powerful wine. Inky dark fruit, chocolate, spice, crème de cassis and new leather flesh out effortlessly in the glass. The 2019 finishes with tremendous richness and unctuous resonance. It will be interesting to see where this goes. -- Antonio Galloni | (93-96) | Antonio Galloni | | \$495.00 |