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2012 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Helms Vineyard, Rutherford

Extraordinary aromas of metal shavings, blackcurrant and hazelnut that turn to rose and violet. Full body, sexy and elegant. A triumph. Try in 2019 but hard not to drink now. September release.

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2012 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Lotus Vineyard, Napa Valley

I love the dusty, terracotta, meat and plum character. Ripe and luscious. Full-bodied, tannic and chewy with some pleasant wood character. Citrus rind and dark berries. Mountain tannins here. Muscular yet fruity. Front-loaded. Better in 2019.

2012 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Hershey Vineyard, Howell Mountain

This really builds on the palate with slate, gun metal, blueberries, blackcurrants and blackberries on the nose and palate. Hints of mint. Full body, dense and chewy tannins that are like cashmere in texture. Layered and beautiful. Try in 2018.

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2012 Dana Estates Cabernet Sauvignon Onda, Napa Valley

Blueberry and mineral character that gives it an almost slate character. Full body, ultra-fine tannins and fabulous length. Very, very fine. This is the finest Onda ever. Hints of hazelnut and chocolate. Pure definition of the vineyards of Dana Estates. Better in 2017. **95**