

Wine Spectator

SMART BUYS



DRY CREEK SAUVIGNON BLANC

THIS SONOMA REGION YIELDS AN ARRAY OF DYNAMIC BOTTLINGS **By MaryAnn Worobiec**

Another early champion of the variety is Dry Creek Vineyard's David Stare, who first planted Sauvignon Blanc in 1972 (against professional advice to plant Gamay or French Colombard instead). He simply planted what he liked. Fast forward 50 years and Sauvignon Blanc is one of the estate's signature wines — and among the most popular wines in the world. Dry Creek Vineyard currently bottles four different expressions of Sauvignon Blanc, including two vineyard designates along with a Bordeaux-inspired blend.

The winery is now under the leadership of Stare's daughter Kim Stare Wallace, who is obviously proud of her father's vision. "It's been a lot of hard work, but we've also been very fortunate that was the varietal we chose to pioneer 50 years ago and never left," she says.

MaryAnn Worobiec's Smart Buys in Dry Creek Sauvignon Blanc

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| 90 | \$25 | Dry Creek Sauvignon Blanc Dry Creek Valley |
| 90 | \$35 | Dry Creek Sauvignon Blanc Dry Creek Valley DCV3 |
| 90 | \$42 | Dry Creek The Mariness Dry Creek Valley 2023 |

HOT TIP

All California Sauvignon Blancs, including those from Dry Creek, are good candidates for the cellar, keeping their varietal profile for many years. After the 10-year mark or so, vintage variations will become more prominent. Wines topped under screwcaps will still evolve but keep their freshness for a longer period of time.

