

"One of the things that separates world-class wineries from the merely excellent is consistency across the entire range. That is exactly what readers will find at Calera. I can't think of any of these wines I would not want to drink any day of the week. Simply put, Josh Jensen and his team at Calera have done a remarkable job with these new releases. Specifically, I was blown away by the sheer deliciousness of the entry-level wines. The single-vineyard Pinots all show the intensity and stress of a severe drought year. Calera's Mt. Harlan vineyard is a unique site that is rugged and remote, yet somehow manages to produce distinctive, pedigreed wines even under difficult conditions. Readers won't go wrong with any of these wines. I can't recommend Calera's new releases highly enough."



"Calera's 2015 Vin Gris of Pinot Noir is absolutely stellar.

Expressive floral notes melt into a core of cranberry, white pepper and blood orange, all of which are given an extra kick of intensity by the natural richness of the vintage."

POINTS



Mint, honey, chamomile and apricot are some of the signatures that emerge from Calera's 2014 Viognier (Central Coast).

Beautifully layered and waxy on the palate, but not at all heavy or cloying, the 2014 strikes a gorgeous balance in all of its elements. The 2014 is a real stand out, as well as a tremendous value.



"The Calera 2014 Chardonnay (Central Coast) is a gorgeous entry-level offering.

Orange blossom, honey, chamomile and wild flowers are all pushed forward, but it is the wine's textural finesse - especially at this level - that makes it one of the very best values readers will find anywhere in the world."



"The 2014 Pinot Noir (Central Coast) is both impeccable and absolutely delicious.

Sweet, floral and open-knit, the Central Coast is also a fabulous introduction to the Calera house style. Beautifully perfumed and gracious, the 2014 offers striking aromatics and plenty of bright fruit to match its mid-weight, chiseled personality. Drink it over the next few years."



"The 2014 Viognier (Mt. Harlan) is wild and exotic in this vintage. Soaring aromatics and sweet floral notes are front and center. Waxy and oily on the palate, the 2014 possesses remarkable depth and enough textural richness to drink well with a variety of foods.

The Mt. Harlan Viognier was aged in neutral barrels and the volatile acidity is just at the level where it is noticeable. Otherwise, this is another fine effort from Calera."

POINTS



"The 2014 Chardonnay Mt. Harlan is fabulous. Lemon peel, white flowers, tangerine notes flesh out in a texturally brilliant wine endowed with tremendous depth and nuance. There is real sense of phenolic intensity that gives the wine its structure.

Above all else though, the Mt. Harlan Chardonnay speaks to finesse. Scents of apricot, jasmine and sweet spice add to the wine's polish and absolute class."



"The 2013 Pinot Noir de Villiers Vineyard is intense, pure and brilliant. Dark red cherry, blood orange, lavender, mint, star anise and wild flowers give the de Villiers an exotic edge in this vintage.

Plush and deep on the palate, the 2013 is shaping up to be a jewel of a wine. Sweet floral and red-fleshed fruits add freshness on the finish. Today, the de Villiers is sublime, but it also needs time to fully come together."



"A big, powerful wine, the 2013 Pinot Noir Ryan Vineyard packs a serious punch. Dark, bold flavors abound, the result of a drought year that produced tiny berries. Readers will have to be patient, as the Ryan is likely to require quite a bit of time to come around. Even at this early stage, though, it is super-impressive. The 100% whole clusters are nearly buried by the sheer intensity of the fruit. Today, the Ryan is the most tannic, backward and brooding of these Pinots."



"Calera's 2013 Pinot Noir Mills Vineyard boasts notable intensity, with a sense of linear structure that differentiates it in the lineup. The tannins need time to soften, so readers will have to be patient. Hints of sweet red cherry, hard candy, mint, herbs, wild flowers and rose petals give the Mills its signature inner sweetness as the flavors continue to brighten up as the wine sits in the glass. White pepper, blood orange and pomegranate add the closing layers of nuance."



"The 2013 Pinot Noir Reed Vineyard is one of the most unique wines in this range. Its powerful, incisive, savory personality is quite distinctive, to say the least. Intense chalk notes meld into blood orange, mint, cranberry and white pepper. Today, the Reed is not as outwardly charming as some of the other wines. The acidity is high and the searing tannins need at least a few years to soften. There is no shortage of intrigue, that is for sure."



"The **Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard** is one of the most overt and powerful wines in the range. The stress of the drought comes through in a wine with real sense of push and pull tension.

Ample, rich and also structured, the Jensen is another wine that needs at least a few more years in bottle. The flavors are especially dark and intense this year, while the huge, resonant finish adds to the wine's considerable appeal."



"A wild, exotic wine, Calera's 2013 Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard is spectacularly rich, flamboyant and intense.

Beams of tannin and phenolics give the wine its structural backbone and more than enough structure to handle the intense, superripe fruit. Today, the 2013 is very, very young. I can't wait to see how it ages."