



# SBRAGIA

FAMILY VINEYARDS

## ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON DRY CREEK VALLEY

I buy these grapes from Dr. Andolsen, our long-time friend (over 20 years) and family doctor. His vineyard is on the west side of Dry Creek in the rolling hills of the coastal range in Sonoma County, and he always allows me to select grapes from my favorite blocks. It's a great piece of land and the wine it makes offers an elegant, yet ripe, rich cherry characteristic that I always associate with this appellation.

### 2011 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**Rated 91**

*Vinous Media, February 2014*

"Sbragia's 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon Andolsen Vineyard emerges from a site on the western side of Dry Creek Valley. A blast of dark red fruit melds into iron, smoke, tobacco and underbrush notes. In 2011 the flavors are bright and focused throughout. There are no hard edges or angular contours, but plenty of Dry Creek personality." –A. Galloni

### 2010 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**Rated 92**

*Wine Advocate, June 2013*

"... utterly impeccable from start to finish. Firm mountain tannins provide the backdrop as this expressive, powerful wine gradually reveals its personality. Iron, tobacco and licorice notes dominate, while the fruit takes a little longer to become evident. With time in the glass, the wine gets better and better, as sweet floral notes and an attractive upper register opens up. Still, this remains a fairly bold, muscular Cabernet Sauvignon that could use another handful of years in the cellar." –A. Galloni

**Rated 90**

*Wine Enthusiast, June 2013*

"Made in Sbragia's muscular style, a ripe, flashy wine, with briary blackberry, currant, mocha and oak flavors. The tannins are strong but soft, and the overall impression is complex. Fine now with steak, barbecue, but should gain bottle complexity over the next 5–6 years." – S. Heimoff

### 2009 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**Rated 93**

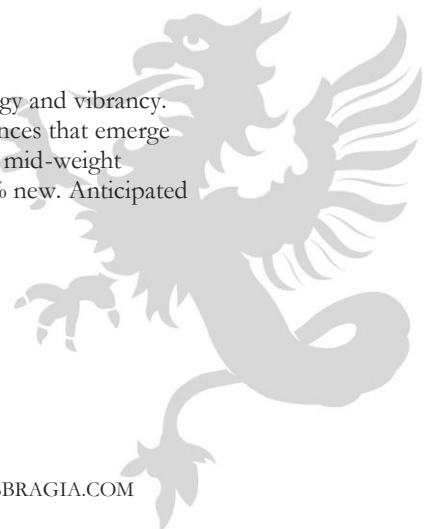
*Wine Advocate, #206*

The 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Andolsen Vineyard bristles with considerable energy and vibrancy. Freshly cut flowers, spices, red berries and wild savory herbs are some of the nuances that emerge from the glass. A polished, beautifully delineated finish rounds out this gorgeous, mid-weight Cabernet Sauvignon. The Andolsen spent 18 months in French oak barrels, 100% new. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024. – A. Galloni



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**Rated 92**

***Wine Enthusiast***

...This Cabernet does score high on the delicious scale. Shows Dry Creek's rustic tannin structure... The blackberry, blueberry and currant flavors, which are accented with smoky oak, are incredible. Drink it over the next few years, and watch it change as it breaths in the glass. – S. Heimoff

**Rated 91**

***International Wine Report***

The 2009 Sbragia Family Cabernet Sauvignon Andolsen Vineyard is a well-rounded Cabernet with lots of dark currant, anise, smoke and some spices mixed in as well. Full-bodied and polished with a long juicy finish. (Drink 2012-2019) – J. D'Angelo

## 2007 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**Rated 90**

***The Tasting Panel***

“Dark and ripe with plum, cassis and spice; smooth, rich, balanced and long with style and depth.”  
- A. D. Blue

**Rated 90**

***Stephen Tanzer***

Varietally expressive aromas of plum, cassis, licorice and dried herbs. Juicy and intense, with classic Dry Creek Cabernet notes of licorice and dried herbs. Nicely ripe for this wine but also has sound acidity to give it verve... <http://www.wineaccess.com/tanzer>

**Rated 90**

***Wine Advocate***

The other offering from the Sonoma side of the Mayacamas Mountains is the 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Andolsen. From a different vintage altogether, it reveals sweeter tannin, riper fruit, and beautiful opulence and intensity. This pure, deep 2007 can be drunk now or cellared for 20+ years.  
- R. Parker Jr.

**Rated 90 – Very Highly Recommended**

***California Grapevine***

Attractive, intense, tarish, plummy, black cherry fruit aroma with notes of graphite, green olive, black licorice and sandalwood; full body; big dense, extracted, plummy, cassis and blackberry flavors with a plush mouthfeel; full relatively soft tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very approachable now though deserving several more years of bottle aging.

## 2006 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**Rated Five Stars: Outstanding**

***Decanter Magazine***

Combines herbs, forest floor and mineral complexity with dense, ripe, concentrated black fruit. Brawny and tight now, it should blossom with cellaring... – L. Murphy

***International Wine Cellar***

Black raspberry and blackberry syrup on the slightly dusty nose. Sweet and smooth on the palate, with dark berry flavors complicated by a note of menthol. Finishes with substantial dusty tannins that showed a dry side with aeration. - S. Tanzer <http://www.wineaccess.com/tanzer>



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***Wine Spectator***

Fragrant floral, jasmine and wild berry scents are intense, full-bodied, well-proportioned and complex, at some points it is tight and also supple, ending with light toasty oak. Drink now through 2015.  
- J. Laube

***Wine Picks***

***The Capital***

Black cherry nose and flavors with a whiff of cedar, and alcohol, in a nice vanilla frame. Just a great glass of wine, at a decent price, that you can drink now or easily hold for three to five years.  
- T. Marquardt & P. Darr

***Wineskinny.com***

Rich and aromatic, with floral-scented blackberry and black cherry fruit that picks up light herbal, clove and toast notes through the smooth, lengthy finish. Ready to drink now and over the next four or five years.

**Rated 90**

***Wine News***

Dense garnet hue. Healthy cherry, mint, leather and oak aromas. A solid core of black cherry fruit, clove and fine-grain tannins. Dry, compact finish that will continue to improve.

***Wine Review Online***

This Golden State rendition offered everything we found we wanted with a wine for burgers - rich, unabashed flavor coupled with a fleshy, juicy sensation on the palate. Yum! - P. Lukacs & M. Thomas

**Rated 90**

***Wine Advocate***

Outstanding...Its deep ruby/purple color is followed by aromas of tobacco leaf, underbrush, white chocolate, black currants, and loamy soil. Fairly-priced for a serious Cabernet Sauvignon from Dry Creek, it should evolve for 12-15+ years. - R. Parker Jr.

**2005 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

***Phoenix Drinks Examiner***

Napa legend Ed Sbragia passes the winemaking reigns at Beringer after 30-plus years and launched his own label a few years ago to great fanfare. I'm definitely one of the fans. This burly Cab drips with black cherry fruit and cedar-leather spice. It's ripe, rich and elegant and a great mate to beef or game.  
- M. Nothaft

**Rated 91**

***Wine Advocate***

Andolsen may be one of the finest Dry Creek Cabernets I have ever tasted. Aromas of graphite, blueberries, blackberries, spring flowers, and background toasty oak are followed by a wine with terrific purity, medium to full body, wonderful sweetness, and a silky finish that lasts for 40+ seconds. Drink this superb value over the next 15 years. - R. Parker Jr.

**Rated 90**

***International Wine Cellar***

Black fruits, violet, licorice, earth and sage on the nose. Tightly wound and juicy, with a slight peppery edge to the black fruit, mineral and licorice flavors. The edgy finish features firm but fine tannins. This one needs to be served with food. - S. Tanzer



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**Rated 92**

***Wine News***

Claret-like aromas of tea and tobacco with cranberry, raspberry and vanilla notes. Waves of sweet cherry fruit comb the palate followed by mouth-puckering tannins. Somewhat creamy finish with lingering toasted oak, checked by youthful tannins.

***Wine Spectator***

Well proportioned, with a tight core of dried currant, blackberry, sage, mineral and cedary oak. Offers a nice glimpse of ripe Cabernet fruit midpalate...Drink now through 2014. – J. Laube

**Rated 90**

***Wine ReviewOnline.com***

This is a big-time Cabernet at a price that is notably below what is generally being asked in California for wines of this quality level. Its most prominent characteristic is intense blackberry fruit, which is very agreeably augmented with a note of dark chocolate. Deeply flavored and quite concentrated, with a bit of toasty wood, this would benefit from a couple of years of cellaring. – M. Franz

***Wineskinny.com, August/September 2008***

Lovely balance here, with floral-laced black currant and blackberry aromas and flavors that pick up cedar, cocoa powder and dried herbs through the sleek finish. Ready to drink now and over the next four or five years.

**SILVER**

***Sonoma County Harvest Fair, 2008***

**2 ½ stars – ‘Good to Excellent’**

***San Francisco Chronicle***

Smashed blackberry, black olive, smoky charcuterie and woody/herbal nose. More compelling palate starts with an earthy base, dark, concentrated fruit and a bit of char finishes with assertive but finely grained tannins. A powerful, brooding style. – L. C. Bennett

**2003 ANDOLSEN VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

**Rated 90 \*Top 20**

***Wine Spectator, 10 Year Cabernet Retrospective Tasting, July 2013***

“A solid effort that's dense, chewy, youthful and concentrated, with a complex mix of dried dark berry, prune, crushed oak and blackberry. This is ready now, but has time on the clock. 2003 California Cabernet blind retrospective (July 2013). Drink now. –J. Laube

**Rated 90+**

***Wine Advocate, 10 Year Cabernet Retrospective Tasting, June 2013***

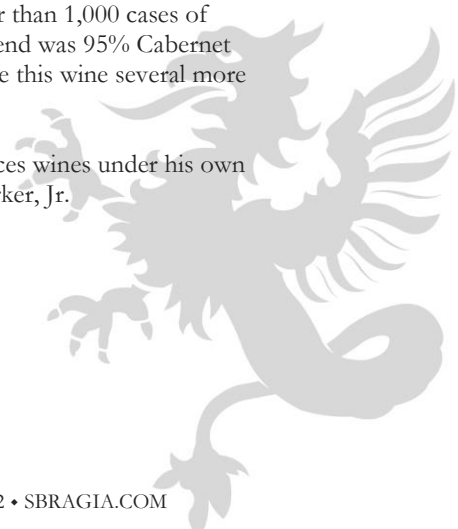
“The dense ruby/purple-colored 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Andolsen Vineyard reveals powerful minerality, moderate tannins to shed and medium to full body. It displays the potential of the Dry Creek area for producing world-class Cabernet Sauvignon. Sbragia made fewer than 1,000 cases of this beauty, which was aged 18 months in 100% new French oak. The final blend was 95% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc that finished at 14.6% natural alcohol. Give this wine several more years of cellaring and drink it over the following decade.

The longtime, bigger-than-life winemaker at Beringer, Ed Sbragia, now produces wines under his own label. All four of his 2003s admirably demonstrate his obvious talent.” –R. Parker, Jr.



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**Rated 90**

***Wine Advocate, December 2005***

“The Dry Creek 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Andolsen. is a gritty, earthy, and spice-driven Cabernet Sauvignon with terrific richness, rustic tannins, and more sweet black cherry and loamy soil notes. It is a distinctive, terroir-driven red that should be drunk over the next decade.

With all these wines, it must seem like Ed Sbragia must have left Beringer to start his own operation, but he’s still at Beringer, and they would be smart to keep him there given his undeniable talents. He’s been a fixture at Beringer for decades, and it speaks highly of the Beringer brain trust to allow him the flexibility to have his own label. He features mostly Chardonnay and Cabernet, but there are a couple Zinfandels and one Merlot in the portfolio.” –R. Parker, Jr.



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