

Lang & Reed 2012 Cabernet Franc North Coast



SEPTEMBER 23, 2014 2:22 PM • [CATHERINE BUGUE
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What is the wine Napa Valley chefs choose for special meals such as Thanksgiving? In a past query, more chefs named Lang & Reed Cabernet Franc as their go-to wine for the holiday over any other style or brand. Solbar's Executive Chef Brandon Sharp; Cindy Pawlcyn with her numerous restaurants ... there can be no downplaying the greatness of this wine.

At \$27 a bottle (!) this 2012 has everything you could want: a mouthful of deep, juicy fruit flavors; a rich, but not cloying body, with great acidity; and an intriguingly long finish.

The Skupny family (Lang and Reed are the sons) likely know more about cabernet franc than anyone else in the valley, but I recently learned that if you are ever in need of historical information about the wineries and wines of Napa Valley, John Skupny is your man.

(Catherine Bugue is the Star's tasting panel writer. If you'd like to submit a Napa Valley wine for this column, please bring it to the St. Helena Star office, 1200 Main St., Suite C during regular business hours. There's no guarantee your wine will be chosen to be featured, but all wines will be evaluated and considered. For questions, concerns contact Catherine Bugue, (707) 337-6840 or catbugue@gmail.com.)