

GRIEVE

Family Winery

GRIEVE FAMILY WINERY REVIEWS

DOUBLE EAGLE SAUVIGNON BLANC 2018

95pts This 'White' happens to be 100 percent Sauvignon Blanc, crafted by the brilliant winemaker Philippe Melka. So of course, it has a Bordeaux-style flavor profile, particularly the aroma of white peach. Partially barrel-aged, it also offers a spice note and creamy texture, without the pungent green or grassy characteristics often found in Sauvignon Blanc. Smooth, rich, and elegant this is a beautiful trajectory for Napa Valley Sauvignon Blanc. – *Robert Whitley*

95pts The Sauvignon Blanc grapes for this wine were grown in Lovall Valley, which is in Napa Valley, but accessible only from Sonoma. It is considered the coolest site in Napa Valley, because it sits in bowl shape depression surrounded by hills, which allows cold air to settle and remain throughout the day. For 30-plus years, I've been going to Napa Valley and had never heard of Lovall Valley until I received this wine. How did I miss it? I felt a little better when I found a video on the winery's website. It featured their super-star winemaker Philippe Melka. He said he did not know about Lovall Valley until he started working with the Grieve in 2018. This wine certainly suggests that Lovall Valley is a great place for Sauvignon Blanc. Additionally, those grapes are planted in soil comprised of a fine ocean floor silt containing seashells, which might explain the complexity of flavors in the wine. Lemon, lime, grapefruit fruit is entwined with lemon scented herbs such as lemon balm and lemon verbena and dusty, chalky notes. In the mouth, rich citrus, peach flavors with a touch of vanilla are balanced with vivid acidity. These luscious flavors linger. Enjoy this exceptional wine with grilled halibut or roast chicken". -*Rebecca Murphy*

93pts "With Philippe Melka newly at the helm of winemaking for Grieve, this white impresses in a nose of white peach and citrus. Creamy yet bright, it offers length and texture, fermented and aged in concrete egg and 20% new French oak." – *Virginie Boone, Wine Enthusiast*

93pts "In Napa's colder, mostly hidden Lovall Valley, accessible only through Sonoma, and north of Carneros, the Grieve Family Estate produced this brilliant Sauvignon Blanc. Graced with grapefruit and tarragon on the nose, the palate opens up with a sliced lime freshness, melon sweetness and crisp minerality. Vanilla paints the finish with length and elegance". – *Meridith May, Tasting Panel Magazine*

90pts "While a slightly larger production, the 2018 Double Eagle White comes all from estate fruit (a cool terroir in the southern part of the valley) and is brought up all in concrete eggs. A racy, Bordeaux Blanc-like bouquet of crushed lemon and lime fruits as well as floral notes gives way to a medium-bodied, elegant, bright, and juicy white with terrific overall balance. It's well worth drinking." – *Jeb Dunnuck*

90pts "Fermented and aged for eight months in 70% concrete egg and 30% oak barrels, the 2018 Sauvignon Blanc Double Eagle is scented of apple sauce, ripe Bosc pears and lemongrass with hints of coriander seed and lime leaves. The medium-bodied palate delivers mouth-coating apple and pear flavors with wonderful tension and a nice suggestion of creaminess to the texture, finishing with a spicy kick." – *Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate*

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Four ½ Stars "An impressive sauvignon blanc — elegant and buoyant, rich yet balanced. Lemon zest meets brioche. Bright acid. A light and lively finish. Well-crafted." *Peg Melnik, Press Democrat*

Excellent "Looking for a superior sauvignon blanc wine? Track down the Double Eagle Sauvignon Blanc 2018, Napa Valley, an example of the grape that features lovely depth, dimension and detail." - *Fredric Koeppe, BiggerThanYourHead.com*

90pts "Medium yellow color. Rich aromas of honeydew, pineapple and yellow apple with honeyed, floral tones but also these vibrant tones of hay, chalk and mint. Plush texture on the palate, vibrant acid, with flavors of white peach, pineapple and lemon tart fruit. Notes of chalk, minerals, tomato leaf and sea salt add complexity. Nuanced, plump but fresh, this Sauvignon Blanc has lovely clarity and focus to it." - *Isaac Baker, Terroirist*

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DOUBLE EAGLE RED BLEND 2016

93pts "Lots of ripe fruit with dried-berry, plum and blueberry character. It's full-bodied with a pretty core of exotic and very ripe fruit. Some walnut and chocolate, too. Flavorful finish." - *James Suckling*

92pts "Deep purple color. Aromas of juicy blackberries, blueberries, with tar, anise, roasted coffee and cedar, classic, deep, inviting Napa goodness. Full and suave on the palate with velvety tannins and fresh acidity, finely balanced. Ripe blackberry and smoky blueberry with plummy, sauce tones, backed up by complex graphite, mineral, charcoal and tobacco. Boastful but nuanced and fresh, too. Delicious, exciting stuff. Cabernet Sauvignon with 10% Petit Verdot." - *Isaac Baker, Terroirist*

91pts "A definitive Cabernet from the very first sniff and fit with a generous amount of very deep, blackcurrant fruit buttressed by a sensible complement of sweet oak, the 2016 Grieve Family Double Eagle Red Wine is a weighty, well-structured effort that, even though still a bit youthfully tight, clearly has the fruity concentration and extract to age splendidly. And, age it must, for at least a half-decade if not more, before it fully opens from its slightly nascent and still-closed-in adolescence." - *Connoisseur's Guide*

DOUBLE EAGLE RED BLEND 2018

94pts "Winemaker Philippe Melka composed this blend of 91% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Petit Verdot, aged 18 months in 67% new French oak. The wine is, at first, tightly wound in its youth. Chalky tannins, black pepper and spiced cedar defined its textured entry. Fruit becomes riper and more balanced with melt-in-your-mouth chocolate. Powerful and elegant." - *Meridith May, Tasting Panel*

91pts "Composed of 91% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Merlot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Double Eagle Red rolls effortlessly out of the glass with notions of ripe red and blackcurrants, chocolate-covered cherries and mulberries plus hints of menthol, pencil lead and cloves. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers mouth-filling, crunchy black fruits, framed by grainy tannins and loads of freshness, finishing long and lifted." - *Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate*

91pts "Based on 91% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Merlot, the 2018 Double Eagle Red Wine reveals a dense purple color as well as ripe, powerful notes of black and blue fruits, toasted spice, graphite, candied violets, and orange zest. Medium to full-bodied, concentrated, and nicely balanced, it has ripe tannins, plenty of freshness, and the class to evolve for 15-20 years." - *Jeb Dunnuck*

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90pts "Dark ruby; dark cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of mint, mocha, and tobacco leaf; full body; big, rough, textured, cedary, dark berry fruit flavors ; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Currently a bit subdued and could use a few more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended." – *Nick Passamore, California Grapevine*

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DOUBLE EAGLE CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2018

96+pts "Composed of 88% Cabernet Sauvignon and 12% Merlot, the 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Double Eagle was aged for 18 months in French oak, 75% new. Deep garnet-purple in color, it leaps from the glass with vibrant scents of black raspberries, wild blueberries and fresh black currants plus suggestions of camphor, dark chocolate, tree bark and black truffles and a waft of iron ore. The medium to full-bodied palate is densely laden with crunchy black fruits, framed by firm, grainy tannins and delivering great tension, finishing long and with tons of energy." - *Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate*

94pts "A step up in price, the 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Double Eagle checks in as 88% Cabernet Sauvignon and 12% Merlot. It has more complexity, with lots of cassis and darker berry fruits as well as notes of white flowers, cedarwood, toasted spice, and graphite. With full-bodied richness, beautiful tannins, and balancing acidity, it's going to keep for 20 years or more." - *Jeb Dunnuck*

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GRIEVE FAMILY SAUVIGNON BLANC 2018

95pts: "Brought up in barrels, the 2018 Sauvignon Blanc Estate is a big step up and has gorgeous notes of lemon grass, buttered citrus, green almonds, and salty minerality. Rich, medium to full-bodied, and textured, yet still with gorgeous acidity, this is a brilliant, layered wine to drink over the coming 2-4 years. I wouldn't be surprised to see it keep longer as well." – *Jeb Dunnuck*

93pts "The 2018 Sauvignon Blanc Estate needs a little swirling to reveal notes of fresh grapefruit, lemon curd and passion fruit with hints of honeysuckle and mandarin peel. The medium-bodied palate delivers intense tropical and citrus flavors with a compellingly oily texture and a crisp backbone, finishing long and perfumed. This wine was fermented and aged for 17 months in 80% French oak barrels (60% new) and 20% concrete egg." – *Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate*