



Wonderful World of Wine

October 2026

Gary Parker Collection

2022 SHV Cabernet Sauvignon, Stony Hill Vineyards

Growing Region.....	Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley
Varietal Composition.....	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Fermentation.....	Barrel Fermentation
Alcohol Content.....	13.8%
Suggested Retail.....	\$95.00
WineSeller Club Price.....	\$59.99

Broad Strokes: 95 Points Decanter Magazine & 95 Points James Suckling

Fred McCrea and his wife, Eleanor, stumbled onto a 168-acre goat ranch hidden away on the slopes of Spring Mountain, which they acquired and developed into their dream wine estate that is Stony Hill. With their love of White Burgundy, combined with the ideal growing conditions of their property, the McCreas built the first post-Prohibition winery in 1951. The inaugural Stony Hill vintage was released the following year.

Stony Hill's high elevation and terroir with volcanic mountain soil, a limestone sub-layer, and a northeast-facing hillside made it perfect to craft their preferred style of Chardonnay.

Fred brought on Mike Chelini as his assistant winemaker and protegee, who would later take over after Fred's passing in 1977. From then until 2018, Chelini carried on McCrea's legacy and philosophy of winemaking for over four decades, maintaining the "big little winery" and selling primarily through a hand-selected list of buyers—Napa Valley's first mailing list.

In 2004, The first Cabernet Sauvignon is planted on the property with the first red wines released a few years later in 2009. This marked the new era of Stony Hill producing some of the most regal high-elevation Cabernet on Spring Mountain.

Appearance:

I really like the packaging from Stony Hill Vineyards. It illustrates how long they have been producing wine with its classic fonts and logo while still reflecting modern day quality with the logo and fonts. A pretty garnet edge goes to nearly opaque at the core.

Nose:

Black and blue fruits are dense and complex, woven around very fine wood treatment expressing hints of vanilla, black cherry, black pepper and black plum. Do you notice a volcanic edge in there (from the soil)?

Texture:

Finely textured feel on the palate entry. Firm but expressive, the acid and the tannins are very well melded into the fruit. It has an elegance and focus, like few Napa Valley Cabernets.

Flavor:

Very deep notes of cassis, black cherry, blackberry, sweet vanilla oak, cedar wood, baking spices, Indian spices, cola, black pepper, and roasted nuts. The structure holds it in very well, allowing essence of led pencil and the volcanic soils the vines grow in.

Serving Suggestions

This one goes into the cellar for 10-15 years . . .

