

PUBLISHED  
OCTOBER 7, 2024

# Decanter®

WORLD WINE AWARDS



**95**  
**Points**

## **2020 The Vineyard House Estate Cabernet Sauvignon**

A blend of 85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Cabernet Franc, aged 20 months in 50% new French oak. Fairly hedonistic, alluring blackberry and cherry liqueur notes and spiced plums mingling with toasty new cedar wood. Full-bodied, with expressive, satiny dark cherry and black raspberry fruit, burly, soaring tannins, and a burst of black pepper jam and saddle leather on the finish. This is one of just three wines produced in 2020 by Philippe Melka and Maayan Koschitzky. The Vineyard House, situated below Harlan in Halter Valley of Oakville, was relatively protected from the smoke of the 2020 fires. Vintner Jeremy Nickel is the proprietor, and a portion of all proceeds from this wine is donated to cancer research in honour of his father, Gil Nickel.

**95 Points**

*-Jonathan Cristaldi*

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**96**  
**Points**

## **2020 The Vineyard House Block 8 "The Boss" Cabernet Sauvignon**

The Boss Vineyard (Block 8) is situated at the highest point on The Vineyard House's 0.5ha property in Oakville. 98% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc are fermented in stainless steel tanks separately, on the skins for 21 days, then blended and aged 20 months in 75% new French oak. Full-bodied, with heady cassis and framboise notes tinged with sagebrush and new wood cedar. Medium to full-bodied with gentle tannins framed by ripe dark berry fruits, sandalwood, and tobacco nuances with pops of blood orange on the finish. This is one of just three wines produced in 2020 by Philippe Melka and Maayan Koschitzky. The Vineyard House, situated below Harlan in Halter Valley of Oakville, was fairly protected from the smoke of the 2020 fires. Vintner Jeremy Nickel is the proprietor, and a portion of all proceeds from this wine is donated to cancer research in honour of his father, Gil Nickel. **96 Points**

*-Jonathan Cristaldi*

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**94**  
**Points**

## **2019 The Vineyard House Block 5 Cabernet Franc**

This Cabernet Franc from The Vineyard House in Oakville is a blend of 88% Cabernet Franc and 12% Cabernet Sauvignon, fermented individually in stainless steel tanks, with a three-day cold soak and 17 days on the skins. Aged 20 months in 50% new French oak, the wine features super-charged boysenberry fruit mingling with toasty oak spices, white pepper, and sage. Full-bodied, it showcases spicy Cabernet Franc character layered into the rich, succulent dark berry fruit, lingering through robust tannins that build on the finish—named 'Block 5: Crabb's Black Burgundy' after former property owner H.W. Crabb's most successful grape variety name. This is one of just three wines produced in 2020 by Philippe Melka and Maayan Koschitzky. The Vineyard House, situated below Harlan in Halter Valley of Oakville, was fairly protected from the smoke of the 2020 fires. Vintner Jeremy Nickel is the proprietor, and a portion of all proceeds from this wine is donated to cancer research in honour of his father, Gil Nickel. **94 Points**  
*-Jonathan Cristaldi*