



# Platinum Wine Club

90+ Rated, Ultra Premium, Collectable Wines from California's Best Winemakers.

## Seavey Vineyard | Napa Valley

Bill Seavey had a notion that the old cattle ranch he saw in 1980 would make a great vineyard setting so he decided to take a chance. History was in his favor. In the 1870's, the site was the location of the Franco-Swiss winery operation that had been one of the leading entities of its time. And, as luck would have it, the property was currently owned by his daughter Dorie's geometry teacher, thereby giving him the inside edge on purchasing the land.

The estate was comprised of some 200 acres, and contained an old stone building that had formerly served as the winery. Its location, in a secluded part of Napa Valley (actually Conn Valley to be precise), was hilly and filled with rocks, a fact that Bill Seavey considered a plus for drainage.

As a lawyer in San Francisco who was fluent in French, Seavey witnessed the parade of French wine people who came to Napa Valley during the late 70's and early 80's. His familiarity with French wines and the language made him a perfect legal representative for many Frenchmen.

The first vines for Seavey Vineyard were planted in 1981, predominantly Cabernet Sauvignon along with some Merlot and Chardonnay. The microclimate of Seavey Vineyard mirrored neighboring Napa Valley, save the fact that the days were a little warmer and the nights a little colder.

The vines prospered and eventually produced some excellent fruit. For a few years, Seavey Vineyard sold their fruit to neighboring wineries. However, in 1990, Bill Seavey decided to produce his own wine.

A total of only 450 cases were released that first year and then the story got really interesting.

"We entered the first wine in a competition on the east coast," recalled Art Seavey. Art is Bill's son and one of the current owners of Seavey Vineyard, along with his siblings, Will, Dorie, Fred and Charley. "When the judges broke for lunch, none other than Robert Parker picked up an open bottle to have with his lunch. It was our initial release Cabernet and he wound up enjoying the wine. He awarded the wine a 95 in his publication and our winery was off to the races."

Little has changed at Seavey Vineyard in the thirty-plus years since its inception. A total of 40 acres are under vine and the former winery has been restored to its stony greatness. It is easy to imagine the sylvan

beauty and setting the early wine pioneers enjoyed.

Production at Seavey Vineyard has increased to just over 3,000 cases, and there is no rush to increase that figure. This small-scale production allows the Seavey family to maintain consistently high standards in both the vineyard and the winery. The Seaveys are proud of the fact that they have never bought any additional fruit from outside sources and that they farm the Seavey Vineyard with their own in-house crew. The fruit is first-class and that is a very important aspect of the Seavey Vineyard operation.

That last statement echoes the winemaking strategy of Seavey Vineyard. Their aim is not to intervene with the vineyard's production, but rather to express the *terroir* that nature has bestowed upon them.

"Seavey Vineyard is a small, hands-on family winery that falls into the boutique category," Art explained. "Our family intends that it remain that way for the foreseeable future."

In 2016, Bill Seavey sadly passed away at the age of 86. His children, Will, Art, Dorie, Fred and Charley, continue his legacy of handcrafting wines of exceptional depth and elegance. Will Seavey is the current President of the entity.

Seavey Vineyard has two winemakers, UC Davis graduate Jim Duane (Robert Mondavi Winery and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars) and Frenchman Philippe Melka (Chateau Haut Brion, Chateau Petrus). Melka is the consulting winemaker and has done so since 1995. He provides the classic French touch that Bill Seavey felt was necessary when first attempting to produce his own wines.

Industry insiders consider Seavey Vineyards one of Napa Valley's best-kept secrets. Even though its wines have scored high for decades and have been featured in numerous industry periodicals throughout the years, the winery's off the beaten track location has made their existence undiscovered except to those who have literally sought out Seavey's fabulous wines.

And, there is a third generation of young Seaveys coming along to potentially take over the winery's fortunes. Nothing would make the family happier than to continue the Seavey legacy for generations to come - then they could be the complete family winery.



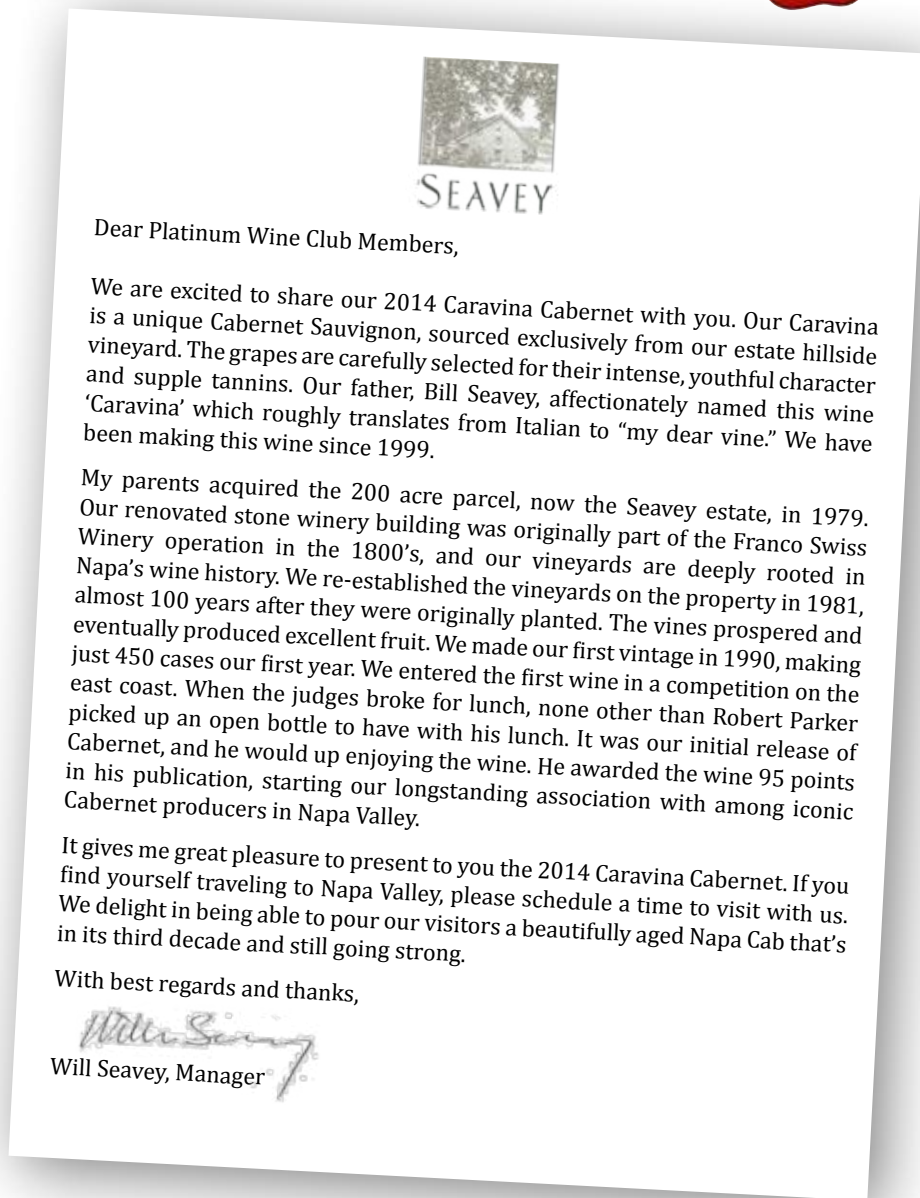
# Seavey | 2014 'Caravina' Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley



**93 POINTS**

— Antonio Galloni's  
Vinous

Seavey's 2014 'Caravina' Cabernet Sauvignon marks the 16th vintage of this 100% estate produced wine from the steep hillside blocks of Seavey Vineyard in Napa Valley. Seavey Winemakers Jim Duane and Philippe Melka follow classic Bordeaux methods when crafting this wine, always with the intention of capturing the terroir of this special property and the elegance and freshness of this award-winning fruit. Beautiful layers of graphite, tea rose, sweet tobacco and Mexican chocolate combine with a firm tannic grip to give this wine bright energy, verve and freshness. The intense minerality speaks to Seavey's rugged hillside Cabernet vineyards and it seamlessly balances the dark fruit character of this wine. Aged 19 months in oak. 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot. Enjoy!



Dear Platinum Wine Club Members,

We are excited to share our 2014 Caravina Cabernet with you. Our Caravina is a unique Cabernet Sauvignon, sourced exclusively from our estate hillside vineyard. The grapes are carefully selected for their intense, youthful character and supple tannins. Our father, Bill Seavey, affectionately named this wine 'Caravina' which roughly translates from Italian to "my dear vine." We have been making this wine since 1999.

My parents acquired the 200 acre parcel, now the Seavey estate, in 1979. Our renovated stone winery building was originally part of the Franco Swiss Winery operation in the 1800's, and our vineyards are deeply rooted in Napa's wine history. We re-established the vineyards on the property in 1981, almost 100 years after they were originally planted. The vines prospered and eventually produced excellent fruit. We made our first vintage in 1990, making just 450 cases our first year. We entered the first wine in a competition on the east coast. When the judges broke for lunch, none other than Robert Parker picked up an open bottle to have with his lunch. It was our initial release of Cabernet, and he would up enjoying the wine. He awarded the wine 95 points in his publication, starting our longstanding association with among iconic Cabernet producers in Napa Valley.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the 2014 Caravina Cabernet. If you find yourself traveling to Napa Valley, please schedule a time to visit with us. We delight in being able to pour our visitors a beautifully aged Napa Cab that's in its third decade and still going strong.

With best regards and thanks,

*Will Seavey*  
Will Seavey, Manager



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**This month's Platinum Plus!  
Featured Wine:**

**Copia 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon  
Santa Barbara County**

95 Points - *Wine Enthusiast* magazine  
94 Points - *Jeb Dunnuck*  
120 Cases Produced



Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included in above prices.  
\*Effective per bottle prices after Membership Rewards discount is applied at checkout. Membership Rewards does not apply to Sale or Special-Offer Wines.