

93!

Ladera

Cabernet Sauvignon Howell Mountain 2001

93 points -- \$65 -- 768 cases made

A superior effort, ripe, rich, and concentrated, yet seamless in texture, with pure currant, cassis, black cherry and plum flavors that are sharply focused, finishing with a delicious aftertaste that keeps pumping out the flavors. While it is tannic and chewy, it is the fruit that impresses.

Best from 2005 through 2012. -- *J.L.*