

JEB DUNNUCK

Producer: Epoch Estate Wines, Article: Central Coast Part 2: The 2019s From Paso Robles

Epoch is another top estate in Paso Robles that has seen incredible growth and change over the past decade. Now in a new facility on York Mountain, winemaker Jordan Fiorentini continues to experiment with new blends as well as different fermentation vessels, also using a touch more whole cluster at times. These are rich, textured, classic Paso Robles reds.

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Rating</u>
2020	Epoch Estate Wines Estate White Bright citrus, lemon, dried herbs, and honeyed minerality all emerge from the 2020 Estate White, a lively, fresh, mineral-laced white that's going to be incredibly versatile on the dinner table with its bright, crisp style. The blend is 49% Grenache Blanc, 43% Viognier, and 8% Roussanne.	92
2020	Epoch Estate Wines Estate White Ext The same blend as the Estate White, only aged slightly longer in foudre, the 2020 Estate White Ext is slightly richer and more honeyed, with beautiful nectarine fruit and notes of white flowers and chalky minerality. Medium to full-bodied on the palate, it's pure, balanced, and elegant, with lots of character. It should shine on the dinner table and keep for a couple of years.	91-93
2020	Epoch Estate Wines Viognier The 2020 Viognier was bottled in May, and it's certainly in the same ballpark as the 2019. Crisp nectarines, honeyed tangerines, and white flower-like notes all make an appearance, and it's medium-bodied, fresh, vibrant, and a joy to drink.	93
2019	Epoch Estate Wines Authenticity Not yet bottled, the 2019 Authenticity comes mostly from the York Mountain Vineyard and has a full-bodied, wonderfully pure, seamless style. Darker fruits, ground herbs, sage, and chocolate are just some of the nuances here, and it's unquestionably a brilliant wine in the making.	94-96

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Rating</u>
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Creativity</u></p> <p>The 2019 Creativity is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from the York Mountain estate. It's a rich, medium to full-bodied, chewy, concentrated red that's going to benefit from a few years in the cellar. I love its bouquet of cassis fruits as well as notes of cedarwood and chalk. Do your best to hide bottles for 2-4 years and it will shine over the following decade.</p>	92-94
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Grenache</u></p> <p>Coming from the cooler York Mountain site, the 2019 Grenache is another fresh, lively, nicely balanced Grenache from this estate offering masculine aromatics of ground black pepper, darker berries, plums, and earth. Medium to full-bodied on the palate, it shines for its balance and has ripe tannins as well as a great finish. I'd give bottles a year or two and enjoy through 2031.</p>	94+
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Ingenuity</u></p> <p>The dense purple-hued 2019 Ingenuity boasts a full-bodied, beautifully balanced, lush, yet powerful style as well as impressive blue fruits and notes of orange blossom, chocolate, and crushed rock. Scheduled to be bottled just after this tasting, it's a brilliant 2019 that shines on all accounts.</p>	95-97
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Sensibility</u></p> <p>The 2019 Sensibility checks in as 100% Grenache that was harvested between September 27 and October 3, which is late for this site. Beautiful kirsch and mulberry fruits as well as herbes de Provence, spice, and pepper define the bouquet, and it's medium to full-bodied, with a pretty, layered texture and outstanding length.</p>	94
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Syrah Block B</u></p> <p>Always one of the standouts in the lineup, as well as an incredibly singular wine, the 2019 Syrah Block B is all Syrah that saw 28% stems and was fermented and aged in puncheons and barrels, 81% being new. This saturated purple-hued beauty offers up a full-bodied, dense, darkly fruited style with classic tapenade, chocolate, and chalky minerality. I love its tannins, it's concentrated, and it has outstanding length on the finish. I don't think it has quite the precision of some of the top vintages here, but it's nevertheless a gorgeous Syrah to enjoy over the coming decade or more.</p>	95

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Rating</u>
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Syrah York Mountain</u></p> <p>Seeing a full 40% stems and 18 months in 30% new puncheons, the 2019 Syrah York Mountain offers a cool climate vibe in its ripe black fruits as well as ground pepper, smoked game, and violet aromas and flavors. This round, supple, seamless Syrah has plenty of mid-palate fruit, ripe tannins, and a wonderful finish.</p>	94+
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Veracity</u></p> <p>The 2019 Veracity shows nicely, with ample red, blue, and black fruits as well as ground pepper, candied orange, and violet aromas. Full-bodied, rich, and concentrated on the palate, this blend of 44% Mourvèdre, 43% Grenache, and the rest Syrah has lots of classic Paso Robles chalky minerality, ripe tannins, and one heck of a great finish.</p>	96
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Viognier</u></p> <p>The 2019 Viognier, which comes from the York Mountain Vineyard, is terrific, offering a textbook perfume of tangerines, honeyed flowers, and chalky minerality. It's clean, fresh, and vibrant, with bright acidity balanced by terrific, classic Viognier texture and richness.</p>	92
2019	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Zinfandel</u></p> <p>The 2019 Zinfandel offers up a big, beautiful, medium to full-bodied style carrying ample blue and black fruits as well as candied violets and toasted spices. As with all the wines here, the tannins are ripe and polished, it has solid purity of fruit, and while already enjoyable, it's going to keep for a decade.</p>	95
2018	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Authenticity</u></p> <p>The 2018 Authenticity shows the focused, structured style of the vintage beautifully. A blend of 90% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre, it has a dense purple hue as well as bright blue and darker berry fruits, supported by ground pepper, violets, and some meaty notes. Rich, full-bodied, and concentrated, with ripe tannins, it has wonderful purity and balance.</p>	95

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Rating</u>
2018	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Creativity</u></p> <p>The 2018 Creativity checks in as a Graciano-dominated blend that includes 18% Grenache and 16% Carignan. Mulled black fruits, ground pepper, leafy herbs, and pot roast-like nuances all emerge from this big, rich, expansive, almost chewy effort that has plenty of tannins. It should drink nicely for 5-7 years and probably develop more elegance with a year or two of bottle age.</p>	92+
2018	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Estate Blend</u></p> <p>A blend of 47% Syrah, 20% Mourvèdre, 18% Grenache, and the rest Tempranillo and Graciano, the 2018 Estate Blend has a full-bodied, round, lush, beautiful profile as well as ample darker berry fruits and spicy, violet-like aromatics. Aged 19 months in 50% new barrels, drink it over the coming 7-8 years or so.</p>	94
2018	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Ingenuity</u></p> <p>Lots of blue fruits, ground pepper, candied violets, and chalky minerality emerge from the 2018 Ingenuity, a pure, medium to full-bodied, seamless beauty with fine tannins and no hard edges. Like all Jordan's 2018s, it holds onto a terrific sense of freshness and elegance. The blend is 36% Petite Sirah, 30% Syrah, 22% Mourvèdre, and the rest Grenache, and comes mostly from the estate Paderewski Vineyard.</p>	96
2018	<p><u>Epoch Estate Wines Syrah Block B</u></p> <p>More iron, ground pepper, charred meats, and tapenade notes emerge from the 2018 Syrah Block B, a rich, powerful, yet focused and elegant Syrah that does everything right. Offering plenty of chalky minerality, ripe, building tannins, and a great finish, this brilliant Syrah will keep for at least a decade. The wine is 100% Syrah that was mostly destemmed (28% whole clusters) and spent 19 months in 82% new French oak.</p>	96

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Rating</u>
2018	<u>Epoch Estate Wines Tempranillo</u> I always love the Tempranillo from this estate. Based on 85% Tempranillo with the rest Graciano and Syrah (co-fermented), all from the estate Paderewski Vineyard, the 2018 Tempranillo is tight and compact on the palate and has medium to full bodied richness, building tannins, good mid-palate depth, and more reserved notes of black fruits, chalky minerality, charcoal, and spice. It needs 2-3 years of bottle age, but it's a rich, powerful wine that will keep for 10-12 years.	94+
2017	<u>Epoch Estate Wines Tempranillo Reserva</u> From a single parcel in the Paderewski Vineyard, the 2017 Tempranillo Reserva is 87% Tempranillo and 13% Graciano that was brought up in 39% new French oak. Deep purple-hued, with a great nose of black fruits, scorched earth, graphite, and ground pepper, it's rich, full-bodied, deep, and opulent on the palate, with lots of building yet ripe, velvety tannins. It's going to keep for 15 years or more.	95