

# Wine & Spirits

SPECIAL ISSUE

100  
BEST  
WINES

100  
BEST  
BUYS

100  
WINERIES  
OF THE  
YEAR

100 BEST  
WINES of the year

Best Cabernet Sauvignon

LADERA  
*Napa Valley*

Howell Mountain  
Cabernet Sauvignon

2003

**95** | Ladera \$68  
**2003 Howell Mountain Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon** Karen Culler makes this wine on the old Chateau Woltner property, which Pat and Anne Stotesbery bought in 2000. From young vines grown at 1,600 to 1,800 feet, this starts from a small place, with succulent, compact flavors of cassis, cedar and herbs, classically styled. Tasted over the course of several days, it gains intensity as the fruit character expands; the tannins seem to propel the wine rather than smother it. The wine feels toned and muscular, while the fruit remains lively and youthfully fresh. Beautifully composed. *Ladera Vineyards, Angwin, CA*

WINTER 2006

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