

### 2013 Bedell Cellars Malbec

The 2013 Malbec comes in at 12.5% alcohol and was aged for nine months in used French oak. It is "[o]ne of the few Malbecs produced on Long Island," says Bedell, a "rising star in the region for its early ripening and resistance to late season rot." Bright and tight, this does the job with structure, presenting a fresh and lively feel, with emerging tannins on the finish as it airs out. There is very little concentration here, though. With some 90 minutes of aeration, it actually comes into much more pleasing balance, showing some ability to integrate acidity and tannins. While it certainly has the structure to age, it will be interesting to see if the fruit can keep up. Give it a year to settle down. Then, don't hesitate to open it. There were 500 cases produced.

Bedell is one of the longstanding producers on Long Island, a benchmark...

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

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### 2012 Bedell Cellars Taste Red

The 2012 Taste Red is mostly a Merlot-Syrah blend (58% Merlot and 28% Syrah), with dollops of others: 9% Petit Verdot and 9% Malbec. It was aged in French oak for nine months (two years old or older) and comes in at 11.5% alcohol. Despite some vintage differences in quality and style, this is mostly on par with the 2010 also reviewed, the 2012's youth and lively demeanor compensating, at the moment, for the 2010's depth and harmony. As time goes on, that advantage may fade. A bit tight just now, this really needed some air. You would do well to give it a year or three in the cellar. It should continue to develop well and hold nicely in the cellar for several years, at the least.

Bedell is one of the longstanding producers on Long Island, a benchmark of some note, part of the region's history for its now-famed Merlot. The Bedells first ...

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### 2013 Bedell Cellars Gallery

The 2013 Gallery is heavy on the Chardonnay this year (70%), with 24% Viognier and the Sauvignon Blanc reduced to 6%. It comes in at 12.5% alcohol. While the drop in Sauvignon Blanc may mean a little less personality, more Chardonnay and more youth easily means that this is the most concentrated of the trio reviewed this issue. It's not just the youth, I think, that gives it concentration. It is a fine vintage for this bottling. In addition, it remains elegant and delicious, combining a bit of the vivaciousness of the 2012 with the concentration of the 2010. By a hair, if I had to pick, this would be my pick of the Gallery mini-vertical.

Bedell is one of the longstanding producers on Long Island, a benchmark of some note, part of the region's history for its now-famed Merlot. The Bedells first planted on Long Island in 1980. The winery...

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### 2010 Bedell Cellars Gallery

The 2010 Gallery is a blend of 46% Chardonnay, 30% Sauvignon Blanc and 24% Viognier coming in at 12.8% alcohol. It was barrel fermented, but for the Viognier, which was in stainless steel. Like all of Bedell's whites this issue, this wine is marked by its understated elegance. The oak is there, to be sure, but it is beautifully integrated at this point in the wine's life. With smooth, caressing texture, it eventually finishes with strong flavor. If it is not exactly perky—few oaked wines are—it is still fresh as well as delicious. It should have plenty of life left.

Bedell is one of the longstanding producers on Long Island, a benchmark of some note, part of the region's history for its now-famed Merlot. The Bedells first planted on Long Island in 1980. The winery was sold in 2000 to Michael Lynne.

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### 2010 Bedell Cellars Cabernet Franc

The 2010 Cabernet Franc is a library wine, aged in used oak. It is pleasant enough for a reasonable price point, showing reasonable structure and freshness, but it seems to flatten and thin fast. Overall, there is still a lot to like here, but it is a wine that probably is not going to reward long aging however long it theoretically lasts, so drink up.

Bedell is one of the longstanding producers on Long Island, a benchmark of some note, part of the region's history for its now-famed Merlot. The Bedells first planted on Long Island in 1980. The winery was sold in 2000 to Michael Lynne.

Bedell was not my No. 1 on my recent survey, but it's still quite a good producer. The wines here generally perform well in a typically elegant and understated style. This group is interesting for its quality, but also because Bedell does do some interesting...

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### 2013 Bedell Cellars Viognier

The 2013 Viognier is dry and unoaked, coming in at 11.5% alcohol. Beautifully done, this shows fine aromatics, average concentration and a lingering, flavorful finish. While this lacks the tightly-wound feel that some can project, it hangs together very well as it warms and airs out, continuing to show both persistence and a little tension on the finish, not to mention intense flavor. It is a somewhat understated white in some respects, very elegant, yet, the longer it was open, the more I liked it. It will be one of those bottles that drains fast. When it's gone, you'll realize how much you were liking it. Drink it on the younger and fresher side. There were 400 cases produced.

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### 2013 Bedell Cellars Syrah

The 2013 Syrah is a rare entrant in the Long Island scheme of things. There isn't much Syrah around on Long Island even as a blending grape. In character and style, this is superb. The ideas are just right, if you are a Northern Rhone fancier. There is a hint of bacon fat, a little game and it has a bright and crisp finish. That said, there is not much concentration here and the acidity makes it just a touch tart at times. Overall, it should age decently, but the mid-palate is not likely to reward long aging. There were 150 cases produced.

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### 2012 Bedell Cellars Gallery

The 2012 Gallery is a blend of 55% Chardonnay, 30% Viognier and 15% Sauvignon Blanc. Showing a bit more of a perky character compared to the harmonious 2010 in the trio of vintages reviewed this issue, perhaps just due to age, it doesn't seem to have anywhere near as much concentration as that wine or its 2013 sibling. It does make up for much of that with some liveliness and elegance, but by a hair it would be my least of the three.

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### 2010 Bedell Cellars Taste Red

The 2010 Taste Red is an unusual (for Long Island) 60/20 blend of Merlot and Syrah, with 12% Petit Verdot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Malbec added in. It is also unusual, of course, for the striking, rather artsy label, with a faux Marilyn Monroe-type of feel to it. It comes in at 13% alcohol. It was aged for 8-12 months in French oak, only 5% new, the rest four years old or older. The Taste Red concept is that this is the Bedell wine that is a "blend which showcases the red fruit aromas and flavors of our region." Like much of Bedell's output, this is understated and sneaks up on you. It is pretty good on opening, but underwhelming. It seems a bit straightforward, a bit middle-of-the-road. Yet, after being open for 90 minutes and then given some time in the glass, it improved notably, projecting more flavor, still seeming lively and p...

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### 2010 Bedell Cellars Musée

The 2010 Musée is a 65/30 Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon blend with 3% Petit Verdot and 2% Syrah. It was aged in French oak for 14 months (only 20% new; the rest four years old or older). This, Bedell's high-end red produced only in the best years, is a wine much in Bedell's general style: understated, elegant and easier to appreciate with wine and food. Opening with a suave demeanor and caressing texture, its flavor lingers nicely on the finish and the grip and tightness there gives the wine some gravitas, making it the most serious entrant in Bedell's lineup this issue. It is a step above the "Taste Red" series, along the same stylistic lines, but with most everything a little better, particularly including mid-palate concentration and focus. It is the best of Bedell's group this issue, and I suspect that the wines will continue to separ...

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### 2013 Bedell Cellars Sauvignon Blanc

The 2013 Sauvignon Blanc is dry and unoaked, coming in at just 11.8% alcohol. What does this have that many other Sauvignons in this report don't? That fresh, juicy, almost-lemony nuance that not only gives you a nice wine, but some of the zest and zing for which Sauvignon Blanc is famous. Showing reasonable concentration for the grape—and note that it is a 2013, not a 2014, i.e., not just out of tank—it is surprisingly lush, in a sense. It is also, however, fresh and lively, with some tension on the finish. If it is not notably intense, it does everything else pretty well. The finish is more persistent than I expected at first taste. Like its Viognier sibling reviewed this issue, this has a certain understated feel. There is no immediate "wow" here. Yet, it grew on me steadily for its beautiful balance, flavor and elegance. It is admitted...

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