

**2010 Jamesport Vineyards Cabernet Franc
"MTK"**

The 2010 Cabernet Franc "MTK" was aged for 18 months in French oak (15% new). Pointed, penetrating and focused, this has the winery's typical elegance in the mid-palate as seen in submissions this issue. There is a slight layer of olive, but the key here is the gripping finish. Its structure is beautiful, but that also means it could use air or a little more cellar time. Classically styled, this opened just beautifully, but I had to wonder whether its relatively modest mid-palate concentration would keep up with the tannic pop in the long run. It may yet be entitled to an uptick.

The winemaker here for most of these wines was Ron Goerler, Jr., who also is the general manager. A family operation, Jamesport is owned by his father. Goerler's successor as winemaker is Dean Babiari, as of November, 2014.

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

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2007 Jamesport Vineyards Jubilant Reserve

The 2007 Jubilant Reserve is a blend of mostly Cabernet Franc as the dominant grape with about one-fourth Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. There are tiny dollops of Syrah and Petit Verdot. It comes in at 13.5% alcohol. Take the Sidor Reserve reviewed this issue, add complexity and a little concentration. Take away the tart edge. This is what you get. It is a wine with a beautifully graceful feel, thanks to its elegant mid-palate, but also a bit of tannic pop on the finish. Full of flavor, but seeming quite serious, it is gripping on the finish. It has plenty of life left.

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2007 Jamesport Vineyards Sidor Reserve

The 2007 Sidor Reserve is mostly Syrah (62%) with 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% each of Cabernet Franc and Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot; aged for 18 months in French oak (15% new, the rest used of various ages). It comes in at 13.5% alcohol. This has a certain tart edge to it, but after that it is pretty fine. Elegant and demonstrating finesse at all times, it is beautifully crafted, with hints of earth and leather in the background. It still has moderate tannins at this age; they provide grip and support. This does a lot right, but it is just a step short of truly distinguished. Overall, it shows well and it should continue holding well for several years. It will do far better with food.

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2010 Jamesport Vineyards Merlot "MTK"

The 2010 Merlot "MTK" also has 10% Cabernet Franc. The winery's ability to deliver wines with a refined feel in this group of submissions makes them seem attractive, serious and classy. This is the best of the group. Showing fine flavor at the outset, its mid-palate finesse and elegance is appreciated, but it never seems thin and it has plenty of power on the finish. As it airs out, it shows off complex fruit tinged with a little slate. It seems like pretty serious Bordeaux. It could use a little extra time in the cellar, but if you open it now, give it some air. It should age very well and develop even more complexity; today there are only hints.

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2010 Jamesport Vineyards Syrah "MTK"

The 2010 Syrah "MTK" also has 2% Petit Verdot added in. It was aged for 18 months in French oak (15% new; the rest used of varying ages). I haven't seen much Syrah on Long Island, but this is certainly one of the better efforts. Showing the same refinement and elegance in the mid-palate as the winery generally displays in these submissions, this has a very Northern French feel, tight and a bit tannic on the finish and moderately bright. It doesn't assault you with gamy, Syrah nuances, but it does have some earthy hints here and there. This is very well done and it should age well. It is not at peak as yet. Another year or two in the cellar might help.

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2013 Jamesport Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc

The 2013 Sauvignon Blanc comes in at 13.5% alcohol and was partly (20%) barrel fermented. Hard edged, very vegetal and surprisingly brooding, it is probably fair to say that the oak and extra age did not help this wine in some respects. It lacks much in the way of that grassy, aromatic zest, but it is remarkably concentrated for the grape (perhaps there, the oak helped), dense and lingering on the finish. This is a darker vision of Sauvignon Blanc. It ultimately works reasonably well, but you are better advised to use this one to pair with food rather than treating it as a summer sipper.

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2012 Jamesport Vineyards Riesling

The 2012 Riesling was aged in French oak (only 15% new). It comes in at 12.2% alcohol and is bone dry. It was sourced from 25-year-old vines. Full bodied, bright, but not particularly piercing, this Riesling is nonetheless gripping and very tasty. This may not have quite as much of that laser-burst acidity or stonewashed feel that Riesling lovers adore, but it is still fresh, delicious and coats the palate nicely. It may be a bit different, but it is Riesling and it seems pretty fine on its own terms.

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These wines as a group show finesse in the mid-palate and power on the finish. They have a

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