

2012 Shinn Estate Vineyards Haven

The 2012 Haven is a blend of 16% Semillon and 84% Sauvignon Blanc, aged in 100% new oak for a bit less than six months. There was no malolactic fermentation. Compared to its older sibling in this report, this has unctuous texture and a solid mid-palate. It seems a bit fresher, obviously. There is hint of that oxidative nuance the 2008 showed, but far better controlled here. Like its sibling, it handles its oak beautifully. This can be aged or drunk now. It is showing well at the moment.

Shinn Estate is the child of viticulturist Barbara Shinn and winemaker David Page, who purchased the Tuthill homestead on the North Fork in 1998. Winemaker Patrick Caserta also works on the wines with Page.

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

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2014 Shinn Estate Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc "First Fruit"

The 2014 Sauvignon Blanc "First Fruit" is so named because, of course, it is the first fruit harvested every year. Lightly herbaceous, this has just enough concentration and tension to be persistent in its youth, together with the fresh feel that you want from a wine like this. On the elegant side, it has just enough mid-palate concentration and comes in at 13.1% alcohol.

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2005 Shinn Estate Vineyards Merlot Nine Barrels Reserve

The 2005 Merlot Nine Barrels Reserve is a library wine. Note that the price merely reflects current releases. Big and full bodied, this is certainly one of the very best bargains in Shinn's group as a category. This particular bottling may have been my favorite of the wines submitted this issue. Showing plenty of power, a lot of flesh, emerging complexity and a fresh, lively feel, this is a gorgeous Merlot that is both interesting and delicious. It has plenty of life left, too, and it may still be able to improve further with cellaring, apart from merely holding.

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2012 Shinn Estate Vineyards Wild Boar Doe

The 2012 Wild Boar Doe, the Shinn play on words for a Bordeaux blend (say it out loud), is a blend of 40% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Malbec, 15% Petit Verdot, and 5% Cabernet Franc. Adding a layer of depth and complexity to the 2012 Estate Merlot also reviewed this issue, this shows fine potential. Eventually likely to become easygoing and harmonious, it won't ever be the biggest or deepest, but it is pretty well priced and it will be a great food wine. Make sure to give it a year or two to settle down and come together if you can. There were 500 cases produced.

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2012 Shinn Estate Vineyards Grace

The 2012 Grace is a Cabernet Franc dominated blend (66%) only made in the best years. It also has 31% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Sauvignon. Full-bodied, tight and quite powerful, this is a big bruiser that also has finesse and a lingering finish. The Cab Franc is very clean, with little of those typical, herbaceous nuances showing. This looks like a potential star, but it is still very unevolved. Let's see how it comes along it time. In the meanwhile, its structure and good fruit merit a show of optimism. Note: there is no price available as it is not yet released. The 2007 was recently selling for \$75, which may not reflect the pricing here exactly.

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2012 Shinn Estate Vineyards Estate Merlot

The 2012 Estate Merlot is vibrant, its lively demeanor lifting the delicious fruit and lacing it into the palate. There is not a lot of depth here, but it has fine focus and it is a great food wine at a nice price. It can be approached now; it will also age fairly well. In its youth, at least, it will exceed expectations and the price is pretty nice.

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2008 Shinn Estate Vineyards Haven

The 2008 Haven is an unusual blend for Long Island, adding 21% Semillon to go with the Sauvignon Blanc. It comes in at 12.4% alcohol. It was aged in 100% new oak for a bit less than six months, which it handles beautifully. As this ages, there are some oxidative nuances coming through, a touch of sherry. Showing nice focus and likely to be a good match for cheeses and nuts, this does show some ability to get better with air and it becomes rather muscular. It does really need a food match, though, to take advantage of its advantages. David Page believes these should age well, but I'm a little wary personally. Let's take that in stages and see how it turns out.

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2009 Shinn Estate Vineyards Brut Sparkling

The 2009 Brut Sparkling is all Chardonnay, disgorged about a year ago. Fresh, young and showing nice toast and fine acidity, this nicely focused and very elegant sparkler dances on the palate, but also delivers fine fruit to go with the tension. It should age nicely, and perhaps better than I think, but it can be readily enjoyed young, which is probably its highest and best use.

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**2010 Shinn Estate Vineyards Merlot Nine
Barrels Reserve**

The 2010 Merlot Nine Barrels Reserve also has a combined 5% of Petit Verdot and Malbec. Preening in its youthful power, this has fleshy fruit (by Long Island standards) to go with it. Yet, all the while it remains very elegant, featuring its structure not just its fruit. This has the makings of a beautifully evolving Merlot with many miles to go. It may hold even better than I think. It can be approached now, if you give it some air. It is very fine. There were 225 cases produced.

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