



2014 Benhaim Merlot Reserve

Rating

88

Release Price

\$42

Drink Date

2019 - 2026

Producer: Benhaim**From:** Israel , Galilee , Upper Galilee**Reviewed by**

Mark Squires

Issue Date

30th Apr 2019

Source

Issue 242 End of April 2019, The Wine Advocate

Color: Red**Type:** Table**Sweetness:** Dry**Type:** Table**Variety:** Merlot

The 2014 Merlot Reserve also has 15% combined of Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon, all aged for 24 months in an equal mixture of American and French barrels (75% new). It comes in at just 13% alcohol. Early on, this was the most successful of the three submissions, although by a hair. It has some of the cream and vanilla nuances that its siblings show, along with their modest concentration and "ready to drink" demeanor. However, it is also suave and refined. The texture turns to velvet. The fruit asserts itself and easily rises up over the wood. It is a great food wine and a pleasure to drink, if a bit pricey for what it is. All that said, it is a bit green. Hopefully, the blending grapes are asserting themselves, because green Merlot is particularly problematic. Overall, and in any event, this drank well.