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# CITY VINEYARD

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FINE WINE • CRAFT BEER • GOURMET FOOD

## Gold Club April 2024

### **2020 Darioush Estate “The Duel” Napa Valley, California**

**About the wine:** A sumptuous blend of 54% Cabernet Sauvignon and 46% Shiraz, “Duel” is the marriage of two distinguished varietals. “The Duel” blend changes every year, trying to take advantage of the minerality, fruit, and tannins of Cabernet Sauvignon, and the juiciness and spice of Shiraz (Syrah). The founder of Darioush, Darioush Khaledi, grew up immersed in the ancestral winemaking culture of Shiraz, the fabled city of gardens and poetry. The Darioush legacy stems from this foundational intersection of viticulture, hospitality, cuisine, and art. He endeavors to create wines of style, soul, and substance.

**About the Region:** A Californian Red Blend can surprise you any time. And that's because California is a haven for grape growers, where microclimates are plentiful, and sunshine is guaranteed. This leads to cultivation of many different varietals, each of which may add their own secret sauce to the blend. California Red Blends draw on their rich history of grape-growing, not as ancient as the Old World, but interesting, nonetheless. It has been a couple of centuries since European settlers started planting their favorite grapes in the state so you can find celebrated varieties from all over countries like France, Spain, Italy, and Germany, not to mention a few indigenous varieties as well. One of the world's most highly regarded regions for wine production and tourism, the Napa Valley brought worldwide recognition to California winemaking.

**Tasting Notes:** 2020 Duel delivers its trademark earthiness and spice with notes of currant, black peppercorn, and dried herbs that lift from the glass. Juicy crushed blackberries and crème de cassis fill the palate, enhanced by intriguing herbal notes of spiced chai, acacia wood, and tobacco from the Shiraz. The Cabernet Sauvignon lends fruit, tannins, and structure. [OB]

**Food Pairing:** This is a BIG, JUICY wine! We're thinking anything BBQ with a sweeter sauce. We would decant for a bit before drinking. That said, this wine will hold up to bold, flavorful meats, stews.... Try Asian tacos!!! This wine can easily be cellared for 10 years.

