



Promontory Wine Dinner 2019



Date	:	Tuesday, October 29, 2019
Time	:	7:30pm
Venue	:	Artyzen Club
Wines Tasted	:	2014 Promontory (WA99) 2013 Promontory (WA99) 2012 Promontory (WA97) 2011 Promontory (WA94)

We are honored to invite Mr. Will Harlan, owner of the Promontory Estate from Napa Valley as host to share the knowledge and stories of his great wine.

The wine Harlan Estate by Bill Harlan is widely regarded as the finest wine from Napa Valley, with the price to match. The knowhow and expertise in winemaking has passed on to his son Will Harlan to bring us Promontory.

Bill Harlan: "When I first came upon the land that would become Promontory, its untamed ruggedness was a surprise — quite different from anything I had encountered in the Napa Valley. This wild place, overlooked for most of the 20th century, emanated a power and a mystery and an undefinable allure. It wasn't until 2008 that we had the good fortune of acquiring the unmarked territory."

Over the dinner, each of the four vintages have impressed me in different ways. The 2011 is the most mellow and ready-to-drink; the 2012 is loaded with fruits from the sunny vintage; 2013 has this touch of coolness, inviting me to reach for a sip after sip; 2014 shares similarities with the 2012 vintage but with more power.

Only time will tell if the quality of Promontory will surpass Harlan Estate, but so far the wine critics scores have been equally impressive!



Tasting Notes:

Promontory 2014

"This 2014 is being released in March 2020.

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2014 Promontory bursts from the glass with bold, brazen notions of crushed blackcurrants, black raspberries, wild blueberries and redcurrant jelly with a compelling perfume of rose hip tea, sandalwood, unsmoked cigars and dried lavender. Full-bodied, super intense and yet wonderfully ethereal, it has a firm line of very fine-grained tannins, tons of freshness and incredibly vibrant, crunchy fruit, finishing long with bags of energy." **99 points, Lisa Perrotti Brown, Wine Advocate**

Promontory 2013

"The best wine so far (although I suspect the 2015 may ultimately enter the picture as well) is the nearly perfect 2013 Promontory Estate. It is simply richer and fuller, with greater integration of tannin, and tastes spectacular. With an opaque, dense purple color and notes of graphite, wet rocks, blackberry and blueberry fruit, some charcoal, and again, loads of spice and loamy soil nuances, the wine has great intensity, a full-bodied texture, and finely grained, sweet tannin. This is a stunner and again, accessible, but its best days are probably a good decade away, as this could very well turn out to be a 40- to 50-year wine." **99 points, Robert Parker, Wine Advocate**

Promontory 2012

"The 2012 Promontory, which is the softest vintage to date, was slightly better this year than last year, as it had rounded out. It does not have the depth of the 2013, but it is a great wine on its own merits. Notes of new saddle leather, loamy soil, and crushed rock intermingle with blackcurrants, plum, tobacco leaf and spice in a full-bodied, wonderfully pure and large-scaled style with ripe, well-integrated tannin. It is accessible enough to enjoy, and in spite of its massiveness, it is certainly capable of evolving beautifully for 30 or more years." **97 points, Robert Parker, Wine Advocate**

Promontory 2011

"The 2011 Promontory exhibits a dense purple color, more density and richness than I predicted from barrel, a big, sweet nose of licorice, scorched earth, espresso bean, camphor and sweet blackcurrants and blackberries. A Graves-like volcanic character is also present. Rich, full-bodied and in need of 3-4 years of cellaring (unusual for a 2011), it should drink well for two decades or more." **94 points, Robert Parker, Wine Advocate**