



**2013 Lexington Wine Co.  
Gist Ranch Estate Apex | 93**

The Cabernet Sauvignon-based 2013 Apex Gist Ranch Estate is the flagship of the Lexington range. Here the wild, mountain tannins are tamed by the sheer richness of the fruit and the presence of Cabernet Franc and Merlot, all of which seem to soften some of the contours. Black cherry jam, wild flowers, spices and mint are all fused into the super-expressive, sumptuous finish. This is yet another wine that has come together beautifully over the last year.

**2013 Lexington Wine Co.  
Gist Ranch Estate Cabernet Sauvignon | 92**

A big, rich wine, Lexington's 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Gist Ranch Estate packs a serious punch. Imposing mountain tannins gradually melt away to reveal a core of super-expressive dark cherry jam, grilled herbs, tobacco, leather and menthol. This is an especially big, ample style with plenty of structure from its location at about 2,000 feet above sea level. Readers should be prepared to cellar the 2013 for at least a few years.

**2013 Lexington Wine Co.  
Gist Ranch Estate Merlot | 91**

The 2013 Merlot Gist Ranch Estate is plump, juicy and absolutely delicious. A host of black cherry, mocha, lavender, spice and licorice make a strong first impression. Veins of bracing acidity give the wine its brightness and freshness. The 2013 deftly balances overt Merlot fruit with mountain structure in a wine that will drink well with minimal cellaring.

**2013 Lexington Wine Co.  
Gist Ranch Estate Cabernet Franc | 89**

The 2013 Cabernet Franc Gist Ranch Estate has come together quite nicely since I tasted it last year. Deep, powerful and intense, the 2013 packs a serious punch, with plenty of dark blue and purplish-hued stone fruit flavors front and center. Attractive spiced notes add nuance throughout. Although the 2013 is not especially varietal, it is attractive and very nicely done.

**2013 Lexington Wine Co.  
Gist Ranch Estate Malbec | 87-90**

The 2013 Malbec comes across as a bit riper and juicier than the other wines in this range. Plum, mocha, cinnamon and dark chocolate are all pushed forward in a flashy, racy wine that will drink well upon release. Malbec is most often seen as a blender in California. It will be interesting to see if the winemaking team can coax a little more varietal nuance here.