

**Blankiet Estate 2012 Proprietary Red  
Paradise Hills Vineyard  
Yountville, Napa Valley, United States  
Drinking window: 2017 - 2032**

**Antonio Galloni. Tasting date: October 2014**

Blankiet's 2012 Proprietary Red Paradise Hills Vineyard races across the palate with super-expressive red fruit, smoke, licorice, spices and menthol. Here, too, it is the wine's textural silkiness and overall polish that stand out above all else. This radiant, striking Cabernet Sauvignon-based red will drink well to age twenty, perhaps beyond.

**Grapes Variety:** 81% Cabernet Sauvignon

Blankiet has come a long way over the last few years. Increased focus on the dual flagships Rive Droite and Proprietary Red fueled by Claude and Katherine Blankiet's relentless pursuit of excellence has resulted in more severe selection, lower production and higher overall quality. One of the secondary results of that is a marked increase in quality of Blankiet's second wine, Prince of Hearts, which is now one of the very best values in Napa Valley. More recently, the Blankiets have introduced a pure Cabernet Sauvignon, Mythicus. Every visit to Blankiet Estate is proof of the total obsession to detail that is the rule here. The 2012s are radiant and expressive, which is the style of the year, but I was also quite surprised by just how finessed the 2013s are now given that so many wines in this vintage are so structured and tannic. These are magnificent wines from the Blankiets and the husband and wife winemaking team of Denis and May-Britt Malbec.

From [New Releases from Napa Valley: 2012 and 2013, Part I \(Dec 2014\)](#) by Antonio Galloni