

Vintage 2011

Varietal

79% Cabernet Sauvignon 18% Malbec 3% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley

Estate Vineyard

100% Main Ranch

Harvest

September 30-November 2

Oak

18 months in (64% new) 54% French 29% American 17% Hungarian

Alcohol 14.0%



2011 Cabernet Sauvignon

Our Cabernet Sauvignon vines are planted in the northwestern quadrant of our estate vineyard in the Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley, in gravelly soils that warm quickly in the spring. This warmer site, combined with limited yields, produces Cabernet Sauvignon fruit with bright, complex flavors, resulting in wine with deep ruby color and heady aromas of plums, blackberries, and forest-floor spice.

The Vintage

2011 got off to a late start with a cool and wet spring. A surprise rain in our typically dry June was followed by a more seasonable, but cooler summer. We were delighted by a very warm and dry September. October was a roller-coaster with some rains early on and then, thankfully it was dry and warm. True estate growers with years of experience in their vineyards are better equipped to succeed in challenging years such as 2011. In this case, not only did we aggressively thin during the season but we also depended on our full-time vineyard crew, that has worked here for decades, to pick selectively during harvest. Our winemaker, Zeke Neeley gave them very specific instructions about the quality of grapes we wanted. The crew left many clusters on the vines, delivering only the best to the winery. Thus, our yields were considerably smaller and the grapes rich in flavor.

The Wine

Aromas of coffee and dark berries with hints of bay leaf carry through onto the palate. Firm tannins build alongside flavors of ripe plum fruit, sweet toffee and creamy oak in this classic Napa Cabernet.

Food Affinities

Delicious with beef, lamb and game dishes, especially those incorporating oregano, thyme, mushrooms and black pepper.

90 POINTS ~ Highly Recommended (v. 2011)

California Grapevine July 2014

GOLD ~ 90 POINTS (V. 2011)

Los Angeles International Wine Competition May 2014

GOLD (V. 2011)

San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition December 2013

90 POINTS (V. 2010)

Anthony Dias Blue, The Tasting Panel August 2013

97 POINTS (V. 2005)

"A monumental cabernet that succeeds on every level..." Wine Enthusiast

