

# 2011 Estate Grown Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Rector Creek Vineyard

Rector Creek Vineyard is located north of Yountville along the Silverado Trail. A unique climate, combined with Rector Creek's rocky alluvial soils, creates excellent growing conditions for the vines. The 39-acre site is planted with Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. The wines from this vineyard exhibit abundant dark red fruit characteristics including black raspberry, with hints of strawberry.

#### 2011 Harvest Notes

In one of the coolest growing seasons in memory, we benefited greatly in 2011 from our 35 years of experience farming Bordeaux varietals. To counteract uneven vine growth due to unusual spring weather, we did meticulous green thinning. We also gently opened up the canopy to expose the fruit, were judicious in our picking schedule, and sorted meticulously both in the vineyards and winery. The majority of our Merlot came in before the October rains, and due to our quality adjustments the remainder of our fruit fared well until it was harvested. Warm up-valley locations like Oakville, Rutherford, St, Helena and Calistoga were particularly successful, and overall the resulting wines are pure and elegant.

## Comments from the Winemaker

From its firm, age-worthy structure to its gorgeous aromas of chocolate-covered cherries, blueberry, violet and marjoram, this is an elegant and enticing Cabernet. On the palate, the red fruit notes shine with abundant flavors of wild ripe strawberry and raspberry, as well as hints of graphite and cassis.

#### Varietal Content

84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot

## **Harvest Information**

Appellation: Napa Valley Sub-appellation: Yountville Harvest Dates: October 11 - November 3, 2011 Average Sugar at Harvest: 24.5° Brix Rector Creek Vineyard

## Cooperage

100% French oak Chateau-style barrels (60 gallons) Barrel Aging: 26 months Age of Barrels: 100% new

## Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5% .57 g/100ml titratable acidity 10-12 days fermentation at 80°F pH: 3.66

Bottled: July 2013 Release Date: September 2014