

DUCKHORN
VINEYARDS



2011 Napa Valley Merlot
Three Palms Vineyard

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.

Winemaker Notes

A classically nuanced expression of Three Palms Vineyard, this wine combines beautiful layers of red currant, pomegranate, blackberry and Santa Rosa plum with sophisticated hints of star anise, leather, sage and cedar. On the palate, fine talc-like tannins add a velvety elegance, supporting the fruit and carrying the wine to a long, pleasurable finish.

Varietal Content

87% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon
4% Cabernet Franc

Harvest Information

Appellation: Napa Valley
Harvest Dates: September 27 – October 23, 2011
Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.3° Brix

Cooperage

100% French oak château-style barrels (60 gallons)
Barrel Aging: 24 Months
Age of Barrels: 51% New, 49% Second Vintage

Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%
Titratable Acidity: 0.59 g/100ml
pH: 3.58

Bottled: January 2014
Released: April 2014