2011 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon
Napa Valley

Winemaker’s Notes:

This Cabernet Sauvignon presents with bright hues of purples and red. Vibrant, youthful aromas of blackberry, plum and raspberry mingle with notes of chocolate laced with hints of vanillin and toasted oak. Fruit forward flavors burst with blackberry and black plum and are balanced by graceful, structured notes of oak combined with cocoa and a dusty sense of Napa Valley terroir. This is an elegant Cabernet Sauvignon that is finely textured with a solid frame.

Growing Season:

The year started with very cold conditions and high rainfall. Winter was said to have the fourth highest rainfall in 40 years. Spring moved temperatures up into the 70s, with late May bringing more rain. June began with significant rainfall during flowering, reducing crop yield. The summer provided good sunshine, although it was cooler than summer’s past. Late August and September were warm and encouraged good ripening.

Winemaking:

The fruit was harvested in the cool morning hours, then crushed to tank where fermentation commenced after a brief period of resting on skins. Warm fermentation temperatures were encouraged to achieve the desired color and structure for the wine before an extended maceration time on skins prior to final pressing. The wine was transferred directly to barrel for 20 months of maturation.