

B SIDE



VARIETAL COMPOSITION

Red Wine Blend

45% Cabernet Sauvignon
21% Petite Sirah
20% Petit Verdot
13% Malbec
1% Merlot

APPELLATION Napa Valley, California

VINTAGE 2011

WINEMAKER Greg Kitchens

ALCOHOL 13.5%

PH 3.66 **TA** 6.4 g/L

UPC 8 33302 00172 3

2011 RED WINE BLEND

TASTING NOTES

When crafting the B Side Napa Valley 2011 Red Wine Blend, winemaker Greg Kitchens chose five unique varietals. The wine opens with a heady bouquet of blackberry, black cherry and vanilla, complemented by complex aromas of cedar and tobacco leaf. This full-bodied, well-structured Cabernet Sauvignon based blend offers generous flavors of blackberry compote, black raspberry and dried fig with intriguing notes of cinnamon bark and bergamot emerging on the finish. With finely integrated tannins and impeccable balance, this artfully blended wine demonstrates just how great the “B” side of Napa Valley can be.

APPELLATION

Bordered by two mountain ranges, the valley stretches approximately 30 miles north to south, one mile east to west at its narrow northern end and five miles at its widest point near the town of Napa. Its maritime climate—warm days and cool nights—coupled with deep yet not excessively fertile soils makes it ideally suited for the cultivation of ultra premium grapes. The first grapes were planted here in 1838, and today Napa accounts for four percent of California’s total wine production, focusing primarily on the top-end of the wine market.

VINTAGE

The 2011 vintage was challenging for growers. It was an unusually cool year with a late frost that affected many vineyards, reducing yields and delaying harvest. The weather remained unseasonably cool through much of the growing season, and was devoid of any real grape ripening heat spikes until well into September. Rain and lower temperature returned again in October, further reducing yields and raising concerns of botrytis. These early rain events gave way to the long-awaited Indian summer, with the grapes finally reaching full maturity. While the harvest wasn’t abundant, the emerging crop displayed powerfully concentrated flavors and quality.

PHILOSOPHY

B Side wines tell the story of the flip-side of Napa Valley. Nestled in rural areas and rolling hills along the eastern edge of the Valley, these vineyards are just a few miles from the glamorous, high-priced wineries featured along Highway 29. The eastern side of Napa Valley includes areas such as Pope Valley, Chiles Valley, Wooden Valley, Stags Leap District and lower Calistoga. Vines in these areas are grown in thin volcanic soils, which yield smaller, more concentrated fruit.