BROWN

NAPA VALLEY

BROWN ESTATE
2011 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Composition	100% Estate Grown Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyard Source	Brown Estate Terraces
Appellation	Napa Valley
Barrel Aging	36 months in 50% new French oak
Alcohol	14.5% by vol.
Production	150 cases in 12 x 750ml format

Growing Season

The 2011 growing season was plagued by an unusually long stretch of spring rains, resulting in more shatter than normal which in turn required extended time and care – literally known as triage – at the sorting table during crush, to remove the "shot" berries. But even as we bemoaned 2011's diminished yield, it was precisely that extra shatter brought on by the heavy spring rains that saved us during the unrelenting rains that hit at harvest. Periodic breaks in the fall rainy season allowed the loose clusters to dry out and continue ripening. It was a rollercoaster ride watching the fruit and hoping the brix would get to the right levels. Knowing just when to harvest was a guessing game because even with the best technology on hand we can only predict the weather to a limited degree. We usually take 30 days to harvest all of our fruit, but in 2011 we were done in less than two weeks. The history of this wild growing season is now bottled in our 2011 wines, and it is truly a thriller. Like a sailor who's been out at sea battling stormy weather to make it home, the 2011 vintage has a spectacular story to tell.

Tasting Notes

Visually stunning with dense magenta core and garnet/ruby rim. Nose is at first bright and fresh, bursting with ripe raspberries, blackberries, quince, and rosewater. Deeper notes of nocturnal forest, sweet soil, and subtle sage soon follow, commingled with residual tobacco and saddle that lend a sense of hearty constitution. Festive notes of exotic spice cake, brandied currants, coffee bean, and heavy cream round out the nose. Mouthfeel is assertive with texture reminiscent of silk taffeta that bathes the palate in a rich roundness. Long lingering finish amplifies this wine's intensity. Drink now to 2025.