



ROBERT MONDAVI WINERY  
NAPA VALLEY

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C A B E R N E T S A U V I G N O N

N A P A V A L L E Y

The extraordinary quality of this wine originates in Napa Valley's generous *terroir*. When I taste this, I'm reminded why Cabernet Sauvignon is the varietal on which Robert Mondavi built his reputation.

Genevieve Janssens - Director of Winemaking

• W I N E •

*Varietal composition:*

75% Cabernet Sauvignon  
11% Merlot  
10% Cabernet Franc  
2% Syrah  
1% Petit Verdot  
1% Malbec

*Flavor descriptors:*

Deep, dense and concentrated, the flavors echo intense aromas of blueberry, bramble and cassis intermingled with cocoa, cinnamon and sweet, toasty oak. Bold, yet supple on the palate, the dark, richly-fruity flavors are balanced by a bright acidity and long finish.

*Wine analysis:*

Total acid: 6.0 g/L  
Final pH: 3.63  
Residual sugar: .57 g/L  
Alcohol: 14.5% by volume

• V I N T A G E •

This was a classic, nearly-textbook growing season of warm, sunny days and cool, foggy nights punctuated by a couple of brief heat blasts - the perfect recipe for long, flavor-building hangtime and ideal sugar to acid balance. It was remarkably smooth sailing when we began picking Cabernet Sauvignon on September 19 until a rare tropical storm interrupted the harvest, soaking parts of the Central and Northern California vineyards with more than 4 inches of rain over three days. Fortunately, we had harvested all of our white grape varieties and 91 percent of our reds when the storm blew in on October 13<sup>th</sup>. We gave the small amount of thick-skinned, rain-resistant Cabernet Sauvignon left to be harvested a few days to dry out and accumulate optimal sugar before resuming the harvest, finishing up on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The most common themes for the vintage were low yields of small, flavorful berries and excellent flavor maturity.

• V I N E Y A R D S •

Cabernet is king in Napa Valley and we selected the fruit for this wine from the valley's most renowned AVAs (sub-regions) including Stag's Leap and Oakville, with 31% coming from the famed To Kalon vineyard. These classic sites are ones we can count on to deliver the deep, richly fruity Cabernet that made Napa Valley famous.

*Appellation: Napa Valley*

*Grape Sourcing: 100% Napa Valley (31% To Kalon Vineyard)*

• W I N E M A K I N G •

The grapes were hand harvested in the cool of the morning and gently de-stemmed into stainless steel tanks (purity of fruit expression) and oak tanks (added complexity and depth of flavor) for a warm fermentation. Three weeks extended maceration (skin-contact time) maximized the extraction of color and flavor and polished the tannins for a rich, supple mouthfeel. The new wine was transferred to sixty-gallon French oak barrels (15% new) for malolactic fermentation. Seventeen months of barrel-aging provided additional complexity to this refined wine. The wine was bottled in June, 2011.