



ROBERT MONDAVI  
WINERY

NAPA VALLEY

2 0 1 1

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:*

84% Cabernet Sauvignon  
8% Cabernet Franc  
5% Merlot  
3% Petit Verdot

*Flavor descriptors:*

A classic example of intensity tempered by elegance and finesse. A lush, fruity core of ripe blackberry, juicy red and black currant and sweet crème de cassis fleshes out steadily on the palate, interwoven with black currant leaf, mocha and a savory hint of black pepper. There's a refreshing brightness to the fruit from the beginning all the way through to the lingering, velvety finish.

*Wine analysis:*

Total acid: 6.4 g/L  
Final pH: 3.54  
Residual sugar: 0.30 g/L  
Alcohol: 14% by volume

• V I N T A G E •

The 2011 growing season brought tenacious morning fog, unseasonably cool weather and rainfall at flowering time and during harvest, in October. The good news is that the cool conditions prolonged the ripening season, which translates to optimum flavor maturity at relatively low brix (sugar). In one of the latest harvests on record, we began our Cabernet harvest on September 27th. Just before a brief October storm, our vineyard crew took steps to improve air flow in the fruit zone. Genevieve noted that "With its thick skin and loose cluster formation Cabernet is quite resilient in wet weather. Overall, the rains trimmed our yields by about 20% but the long growing season brought beautiful flavor development at lower brix." We completed our Cabernet harvest on October 29th.

• V I N E Y A R D S •

We selected the fruit for our Napa Valley Cabernet from the valley's most renowned AVAs (sub-regions) with a third of the grapes coming from our storied To Kalon vineyard, located on the well-drained alluvial bench surrounding the winery. An additional 13% came from our Wappo Hill Vineyard in the Stag's Leap AVA. The balance of the grapes were selected from several Napa Valley AVAs, bringing together a variety of mesoclimates and soils to elicit the most concentrated, expressive, and regionally representative Cabernet Sauvignon that the Napa Valley has to offer.

*Appellation: Napa Valley*

*Grape Sourcing: 100% Napa Valley (35% To Kalon Vineyard, 13% Wappo Hill 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. A 26-day maceration 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 (13% new) for malolactic fermentation, seamlessly integrating fruit and oak flavors. The wine was blended with complementary varieties through repeated tasting trials over 16 months barrel aging and bottled in May of 2013.