



**THE STORY** Following more than 30 years adapting farming practices to the mountain climate and terrain around the winery, we are pleased to produce this wine from several vineyard blocks yielding fruit of mature character and balance. The heart of this wine is Cabernet Sauvignon grown on steep, west facing terraces that rise above the early renowned Wedding Vineyard, reaching a towering elevation of 1,400 feet. Other contiguous vineyard blocks incorporate a great diversity of soils and exposures, providing additional complexity and unmistakable mountain terroir.

#### THE WINE

- 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc, 14% Petite Verdot
- Whole-berry fermented in two-ton open-top concrete and oak fermenters
- Native malolactic fermentation completed in barrel
- Aged 19 months in French oak barrels (80% new)
- Alcohol by volume 14.3%
- Bottle date: June 2013
- 740 cases produced

**TASTING NOTES** Vibrant aromatics of cherry, currants and plum, with brooding undertones of tobacco, spruce and anise. Juicy and dense on the palette, flavors of blackberry bramble and plum are complimented by fine-grain tannins. This wine's mountain heritage shines through in weight and tannin structure, making it both approachable today, as well as age worthy for the next 10+ years. ~ Whitney Fisher, Winemaker

**REVIEWS** The 2011 Mountain Estate Vineyard is dark, juicy and expressive, especially within the context of the year. Dark cherry, plum, smoke, tobacco, spices and earthy notes meld together in the glass. The 2011 is pliant and wonderfully open today. It is an excellent choice for drinking over the next decade or so. These hillside vineyards on the family's Spring Mountain property seem to have handled the challenges of the vintage better than the vineyards in Napa Valley, perhaps because of the higher elevation and warmer microclimate relative to sites on the valley floor.

~ (92 points) Antonio Galloni, *Vinous Media*

Opaque ruby. Potent aromas of black and blue fruit preserves and incense, with a floral nuance adding complexity. Sappy cassis and mulberry flavors are brightened by tangy acidity, with a jolt of peppery spices gaining intensity with air. Sweet and gently tannic on the penetrating finish, with the floral note echoing.

~ (91 points) Stephen Tanzer, *International Wine Cellar*