

# Larkmead

VINEYARDS

VINTNER & GROWER



ESTABLISHED 1895

## 2011 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### WINEMAKER NOTES:

Dark ruby color. Bright and pure with highly detailed aromatics - stony mineral freshness, floral intensity, powerful dried herb notes and a core of dark blackcurrant fruit. Subtle mint and cocoa add further nuance and complexity. Youthfully high-toned palate - lively, refreshing and energetic. Deep core of layered red and black fruits broadens with air to a granular texture - seamless and cascading. Gravel, slate and stone notes provide complexity. Good tannic definition combines with direct acidity to extend the wine's finish and lingering flavor.

In many ways our new Estate Cabernet release is a throwback to the classic Napa style of the 1970s and 80s. As befits this colder than cold growing season, the fruit is slightly less plush than usual but the level of non-fruit complexity is greatly heightened. With time in the glass, the wine softens and broadens and actually reveals more depth on the second night from a previously opened bottle, as the strong vineyard character unfolds in predictable fashion. The wine displays a real Bordeaux-esque fine-grained texture and the expression of our gravelly soils comes across with particular clarity.

In tasting this new vintage, I'm most reminded of our 2000 Estate Cabernet which, thirteen years post-vintage, is beautifully mellow and cedary. Our 2011 Estate Cabernet should follow a similar path, so I recommend drinking within ten to twelve years from release. This wine contains vineyard lots normally found in our LMV Salon and Solari bottlings, so there is some real depth in this bottling. It just needs time to mellow and reveal itself.

Decant for at least an hour if drinking soon after release.

- ANDY SMITH, SENIOR WINEMAKER



PRODUCTION:  
3,100 Cases

FRUIT:  
100% Estate grown fruit, produced and bottled at  
Larkmead Vineyards

VARIETAL COMPOSITION:  
100% Cabernet Sauvignon,

AGING:  
Aged for 20 months in 70% new medium toast  
French oak barrels

COOPERAGES:  
Tonnelleries Ermitage, Demptos, Sylvain &  
Atelier

