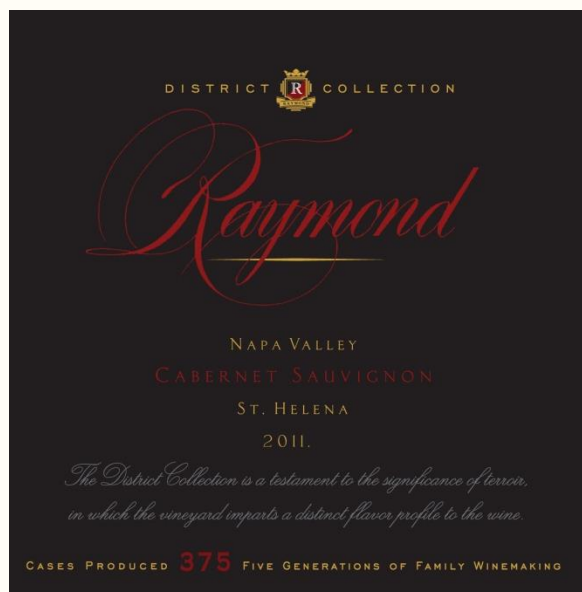


NAPA VALLEY

Raymond

2011 DISTRICT COLLECTION ST. HELENA CABERNET SAUVIGNON



IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes for the St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon were sourced from two main vineyards located just north of the winery. These vineyards are located on gravelly alluvial fan soil with excellent drainage, an essential component in high quality fruit development. The vines are less vigorous in this area of the Napa Valley, producing smaller berries and lower yields, for more concentrated, intense wines with good tannin structure. The wine is produced to showcase the terroir and distinct flavor characteristics of our cherished vineyards.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

2011 was as challenging as it was educational. The precipitation totals for the season found the region more than a third above normal in rainfall, and while this was good news for water resources, the cloud cover and cool temperatures delayed vine development by several weeks at the onset of the growing season. Despite this, we found that the flavors from this vintage developed at lower brix, giving us the opportunity to make truly elegant wines at lower alcohol levels.

TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: ST. HELENA, NAPA VALLEY

VARIETAL: 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

PH: 3.69

TA: 6.45 G/L

FERMENTATION: 18 MONTHS IN 55% NEW FRENCH OAK

PRODUCTION: 375 CASES

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

The grapes were fermented on the skins for 28 days with pumpovers twice daily. After fermentation, the wine was gently pressed, racked and aged for 18 months in 100% French oak barrels, with 55% in new oak Nadalie and Chalafour coopers. Tightly grained French oak barrels impart their oak to wines slowly for a consistent, well-rounded aging process while yielding subtle oak influences to the Cabernet Sauvignon.

WINE PROFILE

Our 2011 District Collection St. Helena Cabernet Sauvignon displays a dark ruby/purple color as well as luscious aromas of strawberries, raspberries and fresh jam. Medium-bodied with excellent presence on the mid-palate, this dense wine showcases notes of red licorice with moderate tannins and a velvety finish.