



COSENTINO
WINERY

BARREL SELECT
SERIES

2011 MERITAGE, RUTHERFORD

VINEYARD NOTES

Sources for this Meritage came from Rutherford in Napa Valley; Merlot comes from the Rutherford River Ranch Vineyard; Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc come from the Pope Valley region of Napa that allows for longer hang time. Our Petit Verdot vineyards tend to be our last fruit brought in, allowing for complex character and tannin development.

TASTING NOTES

On the nose this 2011 Meritage showcases subtle dry huckleberry with clove spice and leather undertones. Its palate, full and bold with classic profiles of dark red Meritage style fruits, gives way to a soft and long finish. Enjoy this wine for a holiday meal 5-10 years from now.

WINEMAKING NOTES

This fruit was picked at peak ripeness and destemmed with care. With no crushing, this wine experienced a 45 day extended maceration to allow the characteristics to deepen and develop complexity. The fruit was then pressed at dryness and underwent full malolactic fermentation to curb acidity. Over the 36 months in barrel, the wine was racked once every 12 months.

2011 was a less ripe vintage overall with cooler than usual late harvest temperatures. Fruit components matured at a slower pace with pronounced acidity, developing into a wine with acid structure and integrated fruit and oak character. While the vintage was not as ripe and had many problematic challenges, the flavors from the 2011 vintage did not fall short in barrel or bottle.

WINEMAKING INFORMATION

COMPOSITION: 55% Merlot, 15% Malbec, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot

APPELLATION: Rutherford

OAK AGING: 36 months in 100% French oak, 50% new and 50% used

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

PRODUCTION: 190 cases