

# CARDINALE

2011

NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

“The 2011 growing season for Cardinale was like opening a new piece of music from a familiar band that you’ve been told has taken a new musical direction, but you soon realize that while the influences are different, the musical underpinnings remain the same. The artist Beck comes to mind, as each of his musical releases is slightly different, but his voice, his resonance, and his message all form the foundation for each of his albums.

The 2011 vintage was a much cooler, wetter vintage than many in the past. It caused us to look at our winemaking methods differently, while still holding to our stylistic foundation. As you open the album that is the 2011 Cardinale, you will find the familiar flavors of dark cherries and milk chocolate, with a velvety mouthfeel and long finish. But you will also find elements that pay homage to the vintage that helped create it with notes of currants, Asian spice, and rosemary.” - CHRISTOPHER CARPENTER, WINEMAKER

## WINE STATISTICS

APPELLATION:	100% Napa Valley
COMPOSITION:	89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot
BARREL AGING:	18 months in 81% new French oak
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
FINISHING:	Unfined and Unfiltered

	VEEDER PEAK	KEYES	LA JOTA	YOUNTVILLE	VAN Z	ANDREW GEOFFREY
APPELLATION	Mount Veeder	Howell Mountain	Howell Mountain	Yountville	St. Helena	Diamond Mountain
ELEVATION	1,400 to 1,600 feet	1,700 feet	1,800 feet	100 feet	150 feet	1,850 feet
SOILS	gravelly loam, black soils	white & red volcanic rocky loam	rhyolitic tuff, iron clay, volcanic rock	gravelly slit loams & alluvial, sedimentary	gravelly loam	volcanic loam
VARIETALS	Cabernet Sauvignon	Merlot & Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cabernet Sauvignon
% CONTRIBUTIONS	37%	34%	16%	6%	5%	2%
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BLEND	structure, floral, minerals, blue fruit, length	gravelly, dark fruit, herb, texture	huckleberry, rosemary, texture, minerality	ripe strawberry, cassis, fine tannins	mid-palate, spice, red fruit	high tone of red/dark fruit, opulent, bright fruit

96 POINTS

“The 2011 Cardinale is another of the many exceptional wines I tasted with Chris Carpenter this year. The 2011 is beautiful and exceptionally polished, but at the same time, the flavors are beautifully defined, crystalline in their beauty and flat-out striking. In this vintage, Cardinale is all about finesse and persistence, with less volume than some previous versions, but a touch more aromatic refinement.” - ANTONIO GALLONI, *Vinous Media*

EVERY NOTE INSPIRED.

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