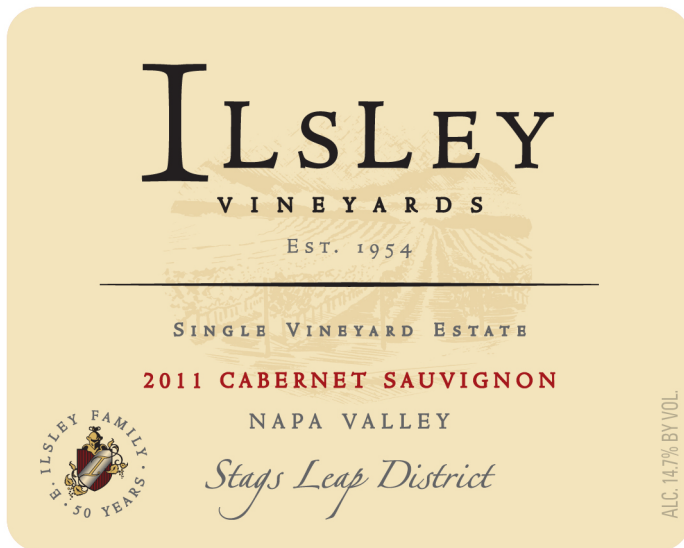


ILSLEY

VINEYARDS

EST. 1954

ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2011 CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Vintage: 2011

Appellation: 100% Stags Leap District

Blend: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon,
12% Malbec

Winemaker: Heather Pyle

Bottling Date: July 24, 2013

Production: 230 Cases

Alcohol: 14.7%

Average Brix: 25.8

pH: 3.83

Total Acidity: 5.9 g/L

Tasting And Vintage Notes

The 2011 Ilsley Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon shows intense black cherry, dark chocolate, sage and thyme with a touch of white pepper and cedar. The mouth-feel is smooth and warm with surprising concentration and length for a cool vintage. The chocolate and ripe cherry as well as mixed spices and cedar carry from the nose to the palate to make a yummy package now that will age well into the next decade. We lucked out with this wine in a year that most would call 'too cool to ripen Cabernet Sauvignon'. Due to the low yields and attention to detail in the Ilsley Vineyard we were able to ripen this noble variety in a very cool year the way any fruit ripens more quickly when there is a lighter load on the tree or vine and when all the fruit is more or less at the same stage of development as the harvest approaches. This requires a good farmer's foresight to remove any fruit that is not 'in sync' with the rest of the crop even if there isn't much there to begin with. This painful but necessary process shows in this 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon with its bright red fruit and soft supple feel. In addition to the hand work in the vineyard, we harvested our Cabernet Sauvignon fruit a full 3 weeks later than average! Luckily the weather held out as dry for us into the first part of November.

Ilsley Vineyards

Located in the Vaca Mountain foothills of Napa Valley's Stags Leap District lie the Ilsley Vineyards. For three generations our family has provided grapes for some of Napa Valley's finest wines. Now after fifty years of farming, we have hand-selected grapes from our hillside vineyards to produce our own Cabernet Sauvignon that we believe captures the essence of the Stags Leap District.

We are proud of our vineyards and the fruit that they bear.



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