

JEFF GORDON CELLARS



2011 NAPA VALLEY JOIE DE VIVRE

TASTING NOTES

A unique blend that is a treat for the taste buds! This medium to full-bodied wine has a deep burgundy color with a bouquet of ripe black cherry, blackberry, cocoa powder and smoky French oak. It is remarkably wellbalanced and has a rich concentration of fruit and oak. The wine offers several layers of flavor on the palate with highlights of blackberry, black plums, mocha and a wisp of oak, coating the tongue with mild tannins and a soft engaging finish. This is a radiant wine to drink now or savor for the next 8-10 years with proper cellaring. Our 2011 Joie de Vivre will pair wonderfully with Lamb Ragu, Grilled Pepper Steak or Greek Pizza with Spinach, Feta and Olives.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The 2011 vintage year was cool and damp, making it particularly challenging. 2011 gave our growers all they could handle with very late spring rains, an incredibly cold and foggy summer, capped by rains in the beginning of October. As winemaker Jesse Inman states, "These unusual conditions challenged us to be more creative working with our growers, as we needed to make the best decisions in the vineyards for timely harvesting. We had to take extra care when selecting our picks. While not as easy as other harvests, I viewed this as an overall positive because it meant the fruit selected was of the best quality, which translated into superior wines."

VINEYARDS

Cabernet Sauvignon (50%) La Herradura Vineyard, located in foothills of St. Helena.
Petite Sirah (30%) Frediani Vineyard, located at the Northern end of Napa Valley in Calistoga.
Syrah (10%) Page Nord Vineyard, located on the north bank of Dry Creek, south of Yountville.
Petite Verdot (10%) Cafaro Vineyard, located in the eastern hills south of the Stags' Leap appellation.

SPECIFICATIONS

Production: 248 cases
Alcohol: 13.6%
Total Acidity: .58 g/ml
Ph: 3.64
Barrel Aging: 16 months
Barrel Types: 30% new French Oak, Demptos Barrels
70% 2 year old French Oak

