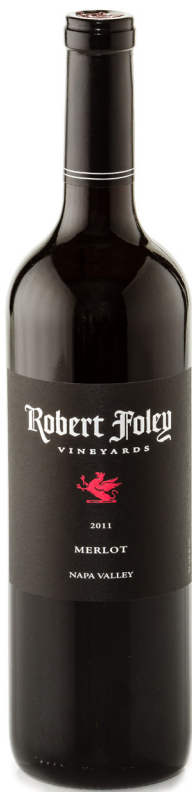


Robert Foley

VINEYARDS



2011 MERLOT

I produced my first commercial Merlot in the 1976 vintage when it was about as well-known as Charbono is today. After several years of trying to convince folks to give it a try, its popularity grew and eventually snowballed.

Of course, Bordeaux producers have worked with this grape variety for many years and it is the noble variety of the Cabernet family on the right bank of that region. Like its Cabernet cousin, Merlot's response to well-drained soils is profound expression and firm structure in the wines grown there.

A Merlot for Cabernet lovers, the dark ruby hue leads to thoroughly ripe aromas and flavors of red cherry, espresso and clove. The rich mid palate gushes with candied cherry, cassis and currant character framed with chewy yet elegantly fine tannins. Masculine structure and spice from Howell Mountain marry perfectly with the round femininity of Calistoga to create a perfect textural balance.

SPECIFICATIONS

Wine: 2011 Merlot

Appellation: Napa Valley

Vineyard: Multiple locations – Valley Floor and Mountain AVAs

Variety: 100% Merlot

Harvest: Hand-picked October 2011

Vinification: Ten-day fermentation, French Oak barrels

Alcohol: 14.9%

Bottled: May 2013

Production: 1,000 cases

Winemaker: Bob Foley

Retail price: \$52