

HENDRY VINEYARD
NAPA VALLEY

MALBEC
2011

The Hendry Vineyard is located on bench lands west of the town of Napa. The vines grow on thin, stony clay soil between 200 and 300 feet above sea level. Morning fog and strong afternoon breezes from San Pablo Bay moderate the climate.

The Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec and Petit Verdot blocks in our vineyard were all planted with the intention of having wines to blend in small amounts with our Cabernet Sauvignon. Block 14 was planted in 1995. Each year, we pick our small blocks of these Bordeaux varietals and ferment and barrel age them individually, each according to its own recipe. Occasionally, we release them as very small quantity, single-varietal bottlings.

In 2011, a very cool year, budbreak in Block 14 was March 29th. Bloom was June 5th. Veraison was August 16, and harvest was October 3rd.

This wine was aged 15 months in French oak barrels, approximately 40% of which were new.

The first time in eight years we've released a single-varietal Malbec. Very limited release: only 49 cases made. Malbec lovers will enjoy the body, balance and pleasantly firm tannins in the 2011 Malbec from Block 14. Characteristic deep purple Malbec color. Lots of deep plum fruit, along with smoky, spicy and savory, almost meaty aromas. Medium-bodied. Tannins substantial enough for cheesy, herbed, scalloped potatoes, lamb chops, leaner steaks and game meats and birds.

Alcohol 13.8%.

Only 49 cases produced