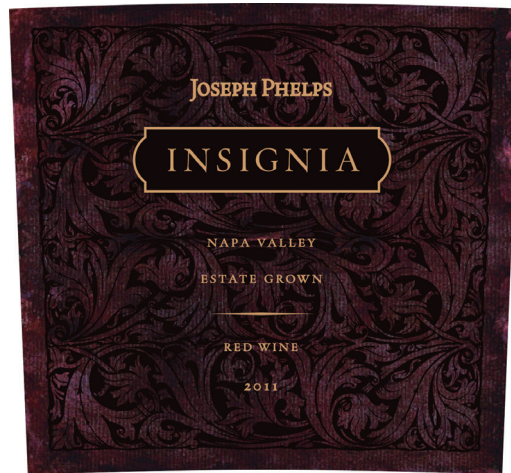


JOSEPH PHELPS



Joseph Phelps INSIGNIA, Napa Valley 2011

Winemaking Data

Harvest Dates: October 3 - November 1, 2011.

Blend: 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, 4% Malbec, 2% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc from 100% estate-grown Napa Valley vineyards:

- Stags Leap District, 20% Barboza Vineyard and 17% Las Rocas Vineyard
- St. Helena, 21% Home Ranch Vineyard
- Oak Knoll District, 20% Yountville Vineyard
- Napa Valley, 13% Suscol Vineyard
- Rutherford, 9% Banca Dorada Vineyard

Aging: 24 months in 100% new French oak from coopers Taransaud, Dargaud Jaegle, Nadalie, Demptos, Marcel Cadet and Sylvain before bottling in February 2014.

Winemaking Notes: Vineyards are carefully monitored throughout the growing season for optimum, even ripening. Blocks remain separate during picking, sorting and fermentation.

The 2011 Insignia is layered with aromatics of dark fruit, cardamom, tobacco, *Herbs de Provence* and graphite on the nose. Fresh and lively this elegant wine boasts bright red cherry, blackberry and espresso throughout the palate with supple tannins.

Growing Season: The 2011 growing season began normally with bud break occurring at the end of March. However, due to cool weather, bloom completed two to three weeks later than normal. By mid-June, preparations were underway for the unusually cool growing season. Vines were forced into competition for water by leaving cover crop untilled, delaying irrigation and cluster thinning. An eleven-day warming trend in mid-September helped push grape maturation. The first Insignia designated fruit block picked in 2011 was Merlot on October 3rd at the Yountville Vineyard, and the final Insignia grape block picked was Cabernet Sauvignon from the Home Ranch Vineyard on November 1st. Despite mid-season rain and cool weather in 2011, blends were carefully selected and the wines are fresh, will be long lived, and no doubt continue to evolve and develop.

Review: (90-93) Points, "Its deep ruby/purple color is followed by sweet aromas of *bouquet garni*, mint, red and black currants, tobacco leaf and licorice, and a surprisingly intense, full-bodied mouthfeel with more richness and intensity than I would have expected for this vintage." -R.P., *Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate*, Oct. 2013