

2011 West Crest Cuvée



- 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, 15% Malbec, 15 % Petit Verdot, Dry Creek Valley AVA
- Harvested October 2011, bottled January 2014
- Aged 26 months in French oak barrels
- Alcohol 13.0%

West Crest Cuvée is a blend in the Bordeaux tradition where we use traditional grapes from the Bordeaux region, grown in our Dry Creek Valley soil. The 2011 vintage pairs **Cabernet Sauvignon, 55%** with **Merlot 15%, Malbec 15%, and Petit Verdot 15%**. Blending is one of the finer arts of winemaking and each vintage of this wine is unique. This was the first time we brought Petit Verdot into the blend as well as increasing the amount of Malbec and pairing down Merlot. The result is a wine rich in flavors of dark cherries, bay leaves, licorice and well-rounded tannins. The wine was aged two years in French oak barrels before being bottled and then aged at 55F in the bottle for three years.

Our Cabernet Sauvignon is grown on our hillside property in the north end of the valley, on west facing slopes high above the valley floor. The grapes get long, warm and sunny days to mature with full and complex flavors. The companion grapes for the blend are all growing close by and share the same micro climate. 2011 was a cool growing season resulting in smaller, more intense berry flavors and higher phenols than average.

West Wines is a family owned winery in Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County, where we started growing grapes 1998. Our winemaking style is inspired by French winemaking. The grapes are hand harvested and meticulously sorted before crushing. We adhere to California sustainable practices in all our vineyards.

Katarina Bonde is owner and winemaker and **Phyllis Zouzounis** consulting winemaker at West Wines. Phyllis began her winemaking career at Dry Creek Vineyards in 1980 and has been the winemaker at many prestigious wineries in Sonoma County. Katarina has blended a Winemaker's certificate from UC Davis with hands on experience at West Wines.