



2011 Barrel Blend

Production: 3,500 cases

Composition: 56% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Petit Sirah, 7% Zinfandel & 7% Syrah

Vineyards: Beau Terre, Jaeger, Red Door, Lazar & Guck

Appellation: Napa Valley

Elevation: Valley floor

Cooperage: 14 months in neutral 2 to 4 year old French and American barrels

Alcohol: 14.4%, TA 0.59, pH 3.69

Release Date: March 2013

Release Price: \$28.00

The Hill Family Estate Barrel Blend is put together with the help of Kyle Knox, a great surfer and a wine professional, who loved the idea of “being in the barrel” as both a wine term, and a surfing term. This wine was blended under Kyle’s direction using lots mostly produced by Doug Hill from the vineyards he manages, to appeal to surfers, and surfers in spirit, who are always looking for the next great wave, but might want to have a great glass of wine in the mean time. 2011 was a cool year with lower alcohols and great color. The Petit Sirah was a stand out, and in combination with the Zinfandel from Wooden Valley, really added perky spice to our lovely base of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Winemaker Alison Doran’s tasting notes:

The nose has a light, spicy, cranberry-raspberry quality, with a little toast and cocoa. The palate has bright spicy red fruit – wild plum and wild cherry, with an almost crunchy cranberry freshness to it. The serious quality will develop as it ages, but for now the fruit is up front and dominant.