



LE DÉSIR
SONOMA COUNTY
VINTAGE 2011

Vérité Le Désir is a Cabernet Franc-based blend that exudes high-toned aromatics, an iron graphite core and a pronounced minerality. Inspired by the iconic wines of Saint-Émilion, Bordeaux, Le Désir redefines Cabernet Franc from the New World, with layers of concentrated fruit, exotic spice and a plush suede texture. Vigneron Pierre Seillan tends to a mosaic of more than fifty micro-crus to produce the complex signature of Le Désir.

TASTING NOTES

While Le Désir's bright and youthful appearance and compelling nose present crunchy blackberry, fresh pomegranate seed, black plum, and blueberry; the real star is the floral and herbal signature of the Cabernet Franc, which comes alive on the nose and palate. Fresh rhubarb, dried rosemary, fresh cut flower stems, fresh violet blossoms and fresh green coffee beans all come together to form a signature which might be mistaken for an expressive vintage of Cabernet Franc from Saint-Émilion. Only on the palate does this wine truly reveal its Sonoma County parentage, showing a full complement of New World fruit. While compelling now, 2011 Le Désir will truly blossom with time.

BARREL AGING: Aged 15 months in 100% new French oak

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN: 54% Cabernet Franc, 36% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Malbec

APPELLATIONS: Alexander Valley, Bennett Valley, Chalk Hill, Knights Valley

ALCOHOL: 14%

ACCLAIM

93 Points - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, January 2015

92 Points - Robert Parker, Jr., *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, December 2014

VIGNERON NOTES

This year started out as another great vintage; cool nights, sunny days and low humidity. The 2011 season had late spring rains and flowering, followed by a not-too-hot summer. It was a long growing season, which produced lower alcohols and very balanced fruit with good acidity and great expression of micro-cru distinction. We began picking September 26 with Merlot from Chalk Hill and finished October 19 with Cabernet Sauvignon from Alexander Mountain Estate. Our new Pellenc optical sorting system helps remove imperfect berries and ensure that only the best grapes go into our tanks. This heightened selectivity made 2011 another spectacular vintage for Vérité.

– Pierre Seillan, Vigneron