

FRANCIS COPPOLA

DIAMOND COLLECTION

"The inspiration for the Diamond Collection was a bottle of 1906 Claret we found in the cellar of the Napa Valley property we purchased in 1975. We didn't really know what Claret was and soon gathered it was the British name for wines from Bordeaux, primarily Cabernet Sauvignon blends. I liked the word Claret because the definition implied something that was clear and pure. But I was discouraged from using the term because people wouldn't know what it meant. Despite opposition, I felt strongly about creating a red blend and calling it Claret. I designed a new label and launched the Diamond Collection in 1997 with Black Label Claret, which is our company's most recognized offering. Today, the Diamond collection has 13 varietals in all the colors of the rainbow. The quality and authenticity of Diamond Collection is extremely important because we are a family company and our name is on the label. As such, you can trust that we'll always give you the very best."

—Francis Ford Coppola

FRANCIS COPPOLA DIAMOND COLLECTION 2011 CLARET CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Diamond Collection wines are classic California expressions that offer fruit-forward, multi-dimensional flavor and immediate drinkability. Our Claret typically includes some combination of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Malbec. We harvest grapes from our own estate as well as other Napa, Sonoma and El Dorado vineyards. This combination of climates results in great complexity and exquisite balance. In fact, we joke that our Black Label Claret has a problem offering itself for far less than it deserves. It's a premium wine at a popular price and it has set the bar for the quality of the entire brand. The bottle is distinguished with gold netting in order to convey its prestigious status, a tribute to the way Europe's finest wines were once presented.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2011 growing season experienced chilly spring temperatures and heavy rains, which reduced our overall crop size. Waiting for that late, warm fall to arrive pushed harvest out weeks later than normal. But having less fruit and extra hangtime allowed the grapes to develop wonderfully concentrated flavors with alluring spice notes, body, texture and supple tannins.

TASTING PROFILE

Appearance Deep Magenta
Aromas Cherries, blackberries, cloves and oak
Flavors Cassis, plums, raspberries and vanilla



Corey Beck, Winemaker



<i>Appellation</i>	California
<i>Blend</i>	79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot, 3% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc
<i>Alcohol</i>	13.5%
<i>Total Acid</i>	.57g/100ml
<i>pH</i>	3.55
<i>Barrel Regimen</i>	15 months in French oak
<i>Released</i>	February 2013
<i>Suggested Retail</i>	\$18.00