

GUNDLACH BUNDSCHU

2011 VINTAGE RESERVE, SONOMA VALLEY

VINTAGE RESERVE

- Since 1981, the Bundschu family has crafted a limited bottling from the most elegant and expressive barrels of the vintage with the designation Vintage Reserve.
- Executive Winemaker Keith Emerson selects individual barrels to blend a wine that showcases the distinctive character of cabernet-family grapes grown on the southwest slopes of the Mayacamas Mountain Range.
- Our 150+ year old Estate Vineyard lies 8 miles north of San Pablo Bay on steep, shallow soils of volcanic ash and tufa, exposed to pervasive maritime breezes, long daylight hours and extreme diurnal temperature shifts. Top blocks farmed specifically for Vintage Reserve yield 2.5 tons/acre.
- A few miles north of our estate along the ridge at an elevation of 2,000+ feet lies Bismark Mountain Ranch, with similar soils and exposure and slightly warmer temperatures. Lots sourced from this high elevation site add weight to the midpalate and a juicy component to the well-structured cabernet sauvignon from our cooler-climate estate vineyard.

WINEMAKING & ANALYSES

- Five lots hand- and optically-sorted & gravity fed to fermentation vessels.
- Five day cold soak; D254 and indigenous yeast strains. 28-32 days maceration.
- Extraction through gentle pumpovers tailored by lot, using louvers and screens to eliminate pumping skins and seeds.
- Twenty months in 100% French oak, 65% new. Thin stave, tight grain. Primary cooper: Taransaud, Ermitage and Demptos.
- 87% cabernet sauvignon, 10% cabernet franc, 2% petit verdot, 1% malbec
- 14.4% alcohol. TA 0.60g/100ml. pH 3.86
- 671 cases produced. Released September 2014.

WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES

The 2011 Vintage Reserve showcases the art of growing and crafting cool climate cabernet sauvignon that is deeply layered and highly polished. Aromas of blackberry, black spice, dried lavender and darjeeling tea. Concentrated flavors of black currant, cacao and roasted espresso bean are seamlessly supported by the bold structure that gives the wine tremendous depth, length and intensity. Round and smooth in its youth, this wine has the balance and concentration to age gracefully up to 15 years from vintage.



ABOUT THE LABEL

Vintage Reserve is a Bundschu family tradition that began in 1981. Each vintage, we select only our very best Bordeaux-variety grapes to craft this singular blend, then we commission an artist to create each Vintage Reserve label to be as unique as the wine inside. Artist Nate Reifke immersed himself in Rhinefarm, quietly rambling the vineyard and using its native chalky soils, clay loam and stone to create intimate and ephemeral works of art in balance with timeless surroundings. 'Echo' is the first label in our Groundworks series. For more information about the artwork and artist, please visit www.gunbun.com/vr.