



# TRUCHARD

## 2011 CABERNET FRANC

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**Vintage:** 2011 was the third in a string of unpredictable vintages... Cool and wet springtime conditions affected berry set and reduced yields by 20%. Cool weather continued throughout the growing season, slowly brining the smaller crop to maturity. Rains in early October forced a quick end to harvest. Despite the challenges, the wines of 2011 have bright aromas and flavors with beautiful finesse and balance.

**Vineyard:** The Truchard Estate Vineyard is located in the Carneros region of the Napa Valley. It is 380 acres of hills and valleys, which contain a variety of soils: clay, shale, sandstone, limestone, volcanic ash and rock. The combination of terrain, geology, and marine-moderated temperatures, provides ideal conditions for wine-growing. Cabernet Franc is planted in several different sites - on steep southwest-facing hillsides. The vines range from 15 to 29 years old, and produce wines that are deep in color, dominated by lush flavors of plum, berry, and spice. Cabernet Sauvignon which grows on adjacent blocks is blended in to provide firmness, complexity, and added age ability.

**Harvest:** October 21 – 23 • 24.5 °Brix • 3.52 pH • 6.4 g/L TA

**Winemaking:** All of the fruit was gently destemmed and crushed, then inoculated with Pasteur Red yeast. Each fermentation was pumped-over twice daily, with the temperature peaking at 88° F. The lots were pressed after 14 days of maceration. The wine was aged for 20 months in French oak barrels (40% new). Rackings occurred every 4 months until bottling in August of 2013. The final blend is 88% Cabernet Franc and 12% Cabernet Sauvignon. This wine is drinkable upon release, but will gracefully age for the next 7 - 10 years.

**Wine Analysis:** 14.2% alcohol • 3.61 pH • 6.0 g/l TA

**Tasting Notes:** A floral nose of plum, cassis, and tobacco; with a touch of cedar, earth, and sweet vanilla. The mouth is filled with flavors of cherry, red currants, and berry jam. Round tannins fill the palate and provide a pleasant finish of dried red fruit and spice.

**Release Date:** March 1, 2014

**Cases Produced:** 328 cases

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