

2011 L'ESPRIT DES PAVOTS ESTATE CABERNET BLEND  
VINEYARD AND WINEMAKER NOTES



*“Mountain  
vineyards,  
classical  
winemaking,  
limited  
production”*

**LES PAVOTS VINEYARD**

*Peter Michael Estate  
High above Knights Valley*

Planted: 1989-1999  
Cabernet Sauvignon: 33 acres  
Cabernet Franc: 6 acres  
Merlot: 5 acres  
Petit Verdot: 2 acres

Elevation: 1,000 – 1,400 feet  
Soil: Rocky volcanic-origin  
Rhyolite  
Exposure: Southerly



PETER MICHAEL  
WINERY

2011

L'ESPRIT DES PAVOTS

*Single Vineyard  
Estate Cabernet Blend*



**VINTAGE  
NOTES**

The 2011 growing season started with a cool, wet spring. While our vineyards did not experience any frost, the temperatures delayed bud break. The weather from fruit set through harvest stayed even, cool and mild. This coupled with the ample spring rains allowed us to dry farm in this vintage. The cool summer also extended the growing season into November, with the fruit benefiting from the additional hang time. Harvest was later than normal. Vineyard blocks were brought in slowly as they reached optimal ripeness. Lower than normal sugar levels contributed to wines showing superb balance and depth of flavor.

**WINEGROWING  
NOTES**

L'Esprit des Pavots literally means "The Spirit of the Poppies." This wine was grown in the original Les Pavots vineyard blocks that we completely replanted between 1996 and 1999 due to phylloxera. In replanting, we spared no expense, utilizing only the rarest and best clones of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. The 2011 vintage, made primarily from these blocks, captures the "spirit" of the Les Pavots terroir.

**WINEMAKER'S  
TASTING  
NOTES**

Deep black with a ruby hue and crimson rim, the 2011 L'Esprit des Pavots has an intense nose of black currant, blueberry, vanilla bean, licorice, chocolate, cedar and coffee. The fruit of the younger vines brings additional aroma of red cherry, plum, black truffle and red pepper to the complex bouquet. The palate is full-bodied, rich and concentrated, exhibiting abundant, youthful and supple tannins alongside a lingering finish. Fruit forward and enjoyable at release, this wine will age well for a decade.

**WINE  
INFORMATION**

Harvested: October 19 – November 1, 2011  
Blend: 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot,  
8% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot  
Aged 18 months in 100% French oak barrels from artisan coopers  
Alcohol: 15.5%  
Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered May 16, 2013  
Release Date: September 1, 2014