

2011 LES PAVOTS ESTATE CABERNET BLEND  
VINEYARD AND WINEMAKER NOTES



*M*ountain  
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  
LES PAVOTS

*Single Vineyard*  
*Estate Cabernet Blend*



**VINTAGE  
NOTES**

The 2011 growing season started with a cool, wet spring. Our vineyards did not experience frost, but bud break was delayed. 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. The vintage will show elegance and a complete expression of the Les Pavots terroir.

**WINEGROWING  
NOTES**

Grown on the slopes of Mount St. Helena in Knights Valley, the distinctive aromas and flavors of our proprietary blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot clearly display their hillside origins. Rocky, rhyolitic soils created through volcanic activity millennia ago, contribute a mineral richness and add to the wine's complexity. Spanning 49 acres, Les Pavots ascends to an elevation of nearly 1,400 feet. Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot grow on the cool upper slopes and Cabernet Sauvignon grows just below.

**WINEMAKER'S  
TASTING  
NOTES**

Black with a ruby red hue and crimson reflection on the rim, the 2011 Les Pavots reveals an intense bouquet of strawberry, black truffle oil, vanilla bean, blueberry and blackberry, with nuances of black currant liquor, cedar, cacao, cigar box, black tea, graphite, a stylish 'garrigue' touch, forest floor and cloves. Extremely full-bodied, this wine offers a potpourri feeling with the same rich, ripe fruit impressions on the palate with black truffle, tobacco, grey and white pepper notes. The mouth feel is dense and round, with a mineral background and ample elegant tannins, which leads to a long finish. The 2011 Les Pavots will benefit from another year of cellaring and will age gracefully for two decades.

**WINE  
INFORMATION**

Harvested: October 19 – November 1, 2011  
Blend: 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Cabernet Franc,  
10% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot  
Aged 18 months in 100% French oak barrels from artisan coopers  
Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered May 17, 2013  
Alcohol: 15.7% Release: April 1, 2014