



2011 “DANIELLI” RED WINE

NAPA VALLEY

Kuleto is one of the most complex and diverse wine producing properties in the world. Located in the volcanic mountains of eastern Napa, our estate features 761 total acres and 82.9 acres of vines perched along ridges and clinging to steep hillsides. Our soils, exposures, elevation changes and sub-climates are so complex that we've delineated our property into more than 100 micro-blocks. Each of these tiny plots is treated as an individual vineyard with varieties, clones, rootstocks, density, trellising and farming methods tailored specifically to the site.

For winemaker Dave Lattin, there is a mutual understanding that all but a small percentage of the winemaker's work is done in the vineyard. Keeping the vineyard's serpentine twists and exposures in mind, the best-suited varieties for each block have been selected. Working with the land, not against it, the individually terraced lots are not oriented to one central direction, but instead are planted to maximize the benefits of their natural location.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

You may have heard how 'disastrous', or 'hopelessly under-ripe' the 2011 vintage was, but I can assure you that 2011 produced some of the finest wines ever at Kuleto Estate. Because of our altitude, quick-drying soils, and daily breezes, we never have trouble ripening fruit even in challenging years. Our 2011s are loaded with varietal character, perfectly balanced with acid and alcohol, and much more expressive than their warmer vintage counterparts. There are among my favorite wines ever made at Kuleto.

Our 'Danielli' bottling has evolved from being labeled as 'Cabernet Sauvignon' to 'Red Wine' in order to grant us maximum flexibility in blending the best wine each vintage without having to worry about the 75% varietal minimum. In the case of the 2011, it allowed us to take some fruit-driven lower alcohol Merlot and Malbec that was harvested mid- to late-September and co-fermented and blend it with some late-ripening silky-smooth Cabernet Sauvignon picked on November 1 and 2. Blending at Kuleto generally takes place at all stages of the process – at harvest with co-fermentation of different varieties, at racking to build strength and complexity into various pieces of a potential blend, and finally with barrel selection as we approach bottling. The goal for our 'Danielli' is to make the most flavorful and supple wine possible. Our 2011 Danielli flies in the face of those who define vintage 2011 as under-ripe. This wine is all about fruit sweetness and seamless wood integration.

TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 3% Malbec

Vineyard Kuleto Estate, 1100 - 1250 feet elevation | Alcohol 15.4%

Aging 26 months in 40% new French oak with only one racking | pH 3.64 | TA 6.2 g/l

Cases Produced 311 (750 ml)