



STREET  
WINERY

## Essence Cabernet Franc 2011

### Technical Information:

Appellation	VQA Niagara Peninsula
Vineyard(s)	Various
Grape Variety(ies)	100% Cabernet Franc
Brix at Harvest	22.9 <sup>o</sup> average
Alcohol Content	14.5%
Residual Sugar	6 grams - dry
Total Production	155 cases



### TASTING NOTES

A deep rich ruby, this wine offers classic aromas of red raspberry, roasted red bell pepper and warm chocolate with hints of coffee/mocha and vanilla bean from the oak. Very concentrated with remarkable density, youthful grippy tannins and a long earthy finish.

Certainly a wine well suited to cellaring through 2019, however if enjoying it sooner please feel free to serve at cellar temperature, decant up to 1 hour in advance and use large crystal glasses. Classic pairings include roasted and grilled red meats, especially those with gamey notes such as lamb or certain cuts of well-aged grass fed beef. Roasted vegetables with Middle Eastern or Mediterranean spices and herbs, firm, aged sheep's milk cheeses such as Pecorino or Ossau Iraty will also marry beautifully with this robust and supple red.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

This Cabernet Franc is a selection of our very best French barrels from the 2011 harvest. A blend of 12% new, 35% second use and the balance 3<sup>rd</sup> use and older barrels, this very specific choice comes as a result of multiple samplings and blending trials throughout the life of the wine. A total of 22 barrels of Cabernet Franc were made in 2011, however only the cream of the crop - 8 barrels - were chosen for this wine. The final blend was lightly filtered and bottled in August 2013.

### VINTAGE NOTES

The 2011 vintage in Niagara had its share of challenges including a cool growing season and pockets of rain during harvest. In the end, many agree that it was an excellent overall vintage for many of Niagara's most important varieties such as Chardonnay, Riesling and Gamay Noir, but less so for later harvest varieties or those very sensitive to humidity.

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