



Wine Profile
Moone-Tsai 2011 Howell Mountain Hillside Blend

Tasting Notes

With its beguiling combination of wild mountain fruit sourced from this legendary AVA, our 2011 Howell Mountain Hillside Blend is a striking example of power, place and derring-do.

Richly deep and crimson in hue, the wine's aromas signal what's in-store by way of its bold dark fruits, and spice. With a notable swagger, the wine's arrival is trumpeted with notes of rustic black cherry and wild strawberry, accented by anise and savory sage. Brazenly concentrated, and rustic through the mid-palate, the wine evens its disposition with a balanced acidity and deliciously chewy finish. Aged twenty six months in French oak (67% new), the wine is a resounding testimonial to this heralded appellation, and will age handsomely in the bottle over the next 5-10 years.

The grapes that made this wine were grown in an east-facing hillside Howell Mountain vineyard perched 2100 feet above the Napa Valley floor. The terraced vineyard is planted on an extreme slope, producing thick-skinned clusters capable of creating a wine with intensity, structure, elegance, and weight.

Winemaker: Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and— recently heralded by Robert Parker as one of the top nine winemakers in the world. *“Where possible, I will minimize winemaking techniques in the cellar so I can create a wine that tells the story of the vineyard. In the end, it must be about the fruit.”*

Wine Facts

Varietal Composition:	42% Merlot, 58% Cabernet
Vineyards:	Howell Mountain – Block J1, N1, O2
Production:	596 cases
Harvest Date:	October 24 – Nov 2, 2011
Cooperage:	67% new French oak, 33% 2-yr oak - St. Martin, Baron, Ermitage
Bottle Date:	January 27, 2014
Release Date:	Scheduled for September 2014

For more information: Contact info@moonetsai.com, or via 707.265.6782
www.moonetsai.com