PRIVATE
CELLAR

Joseph Phelps Vineyards, Napa Valley
& Joseph Phelps Freestone Vineyards, Sonoma Coast

1973 was the year in which it all began for Joseph Phelps Vineyards, when Joe Phelps bought a 600 acre cattle ranch in Napa's Spring Valley and began to plant his first Syrah vines, with the first bottling in 1974. So much has changed since that time, both in terms of winemaking and the styles of wine people drink as well as viticulture and grape varieties. No-one, least of all Joe Phelps himself, could have predicted that forty years on Insignia would be one of the top Napa wines and, indeed, one of the most lauded wines in the world, nor, indeed, how many spectacular wines it would have to compete against to receive such recognition.

Throughout the intervening decades Joseph Phelps Vineyards have continued to evolve, moving their Napa wines away from the original Rhône Ranger styles which brought them their initial success towards the Bordeaux varieties and indeed Insignia follows all the rules for a top Bordeaux Cru Classé, from the blend of grapes to the mix of different coopers to ensure a perfect balance of seasoning. Latterly, the Freestone range from the Sonoma Coast has been fully integrated into the Joseph Phelps empire and these wines show an incredible and increasing degree of Burgundian classicism which make them ever harder to spot in a blind tasting. Indeed, the white wines are handled almost exclusively as a top white Burgundy would be, with minimal *bâtonnage* and being racked only once prior to bottling.

In Napa, the 2010 vintage was described as "European" right from the spring, with frosts persisting into May, leaving the vines a fortnight behind schedule. Summer temperatures remained moderate, bar a short heat spike in both August and September which were hugely welcome to push forward ripening. Following three particularly dry years and after a wet spring, it was a relief to have a cooler year and the vines appeared to revel in these conditions, producing a smaller crop than usual of concentrated yet fresh, intensely flavoured fruit. Harvesting took place between 29th September and 28th October in ideal conditions.

The 2011 vintage on the Sonoma Coast was not a particularly easy one; already a relatively cool growing zone, an unusually fresh, wet spring lasted well into June delaying bud break and flowering. Thankfully, July warmed up and the rest of the summer was warm and sunny but not particularly hot until September which gave the fruit the perfect long growing season which Pinot Noir and Chardonnay love to develop intense yet fresh fruit flavours whilst maintaining racy acidity. Harvest took place between the end of September and mid to late October.

Nicola Arcedeckne-Butler MW
September 2013

To order, please call us on 01353 721 999

Prices in this offer are per case, in bond London.
Duty, VAT and delivery are payable when your wines are released for delivery to your home address.
The wines will be shipped for delivery in January 2014.

Joseph Phelps and Freestone Vineyards, California

"Fog dog n. – a bright or clear spot that appears in breaking fog."
American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, 4th Edition

				£ per case in bond
Fog Dog Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast	2011	bottles	6 per case	£98

Bright gold with a gorgeously overt nose of buttery, lemony white fruits overlaid with crisp oak and a hint of hazelnut, leading to a palate of plump, buttery, grilled white fruits, almost grippy, racily modern yet with a classical note too and going to a long, evolving finish with notes of *pain d'épice*. Hugely appealing and very drinkable already. From 2014 to 2017

Fog Dog Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast	2011	bottles	6 per case	£98

Deep ruby red to the rim with a tight, herby nose of spiced raspberry and caramel with notes of underbrush, leading to a lovely sweet, fresh, raspberry and red fruited palate with a light feral undertone; very Burgundian, with a modern twist, and a clean, pure, herbed finish. Deliciously refreshing. From 2014 to 2018

Joseph Phelps Freestone Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast	2011	bottles	6 per case	£165

Deeper gold than the Fog Dog with an intense, restrained nose of toasty white fruits, hazelnut and grilled lemon. On the palate very full and plump yet no trace of sweetness, mouth-filling, zingy and fresh with lovely depth; much more complex than the Fog Dog and perhaps less Burgundian than in other vintages but truly classic in style, rich, intense and unbelievably long on the finish. From 2015 to 2018 +

Joseph Phelps Freestone Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast	2011	bottles	6 per case	£165

Deeper red black than the Fog Dog with a tight, fresh nose of black and red fruits, raspberry coulis with a very distant grilled note, rich and atypically New World in style. Sweet black fruit on the palate, overt and incredibly appealing already, with intense red berry fruit, fresh and juicy with fine but not intrusive tannins and a good balance of acidy leading to an incredibly long, evolving finish. Stunning wine, subtle and appealing now but will also keep. From 2015 to 2020+

Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley	2010	bottles	6 per case	£190

92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, aged in mix of US and French oak, 57% of which is new
Sadly, there are only 20 cases of the Napa Cabernet Sauvignon available to us this year and it has already sold out in the USA. Robert Parker's Wine Advocate awards it an impressive 94 points saying "The 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon is beautiful. The 2010 possesses stunning textural depth and richness, not to mention phenomenal overall balance." From 2015-2020+

Joseph Phelps Insignia, Napa Valley	2010	bottles	6 per case	£595

84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Petit Verdot, 4% Merlot, 2% Malbec
Deep purple black right to the rim, opaque, with an intense nose of spiced black fruits, exotic and rich, creamy yet juicy and mouthwatering. Sweet, dense black fruits on the palate, crunchy and primary with notes of creamed blackcurrants underscored by substantial ripe tannins, layered and powerful yet totally poised, going to a phenomenally tasty, authoritative finish. Despite spending 24 months in new French oak there is little wood apparent on either nose or palate. Spectacular. From 2015 to 2025 ++

"2010 Insignia is striking. Cool, mineral notes frame a core of blue and black fruit, licorice [sic], spices, smoke, and melted road tar as this stunning wine opens up in the glass. Hints of menthol violets and crushed rocks all flow through to the incisive, vibrant finish."

A.G., 93-95 Points, Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, December 2012

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September 2013

Order Form
Joseph Phelps and Joseph Phelps Freestone Vineyards

Wine	Bottles per case	£ per case under bond	No. of cases required	£ Total
Fog Dog Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast 2011	6 x 75cl	£98.00		
Fog Dog Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast 2011	6 x 75cl	£98.00		
Joseph Phelps Freestone Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast 2011	6 x 75cl	£165.00		
Joseph Phelps Freestone Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast 2011	6 x 75cl	£165.00		
Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2010	6 x 75cl	£190.00		
Joseph Phelps Insignia, Napa Valley 2010 Bottles	6 x 75cl	£595.00		
Total:				

Payment Details

I enclose a cheque for the amount of £_____ made payable to Private Cellar Ltd.

Please charge my credit/debit card number:_____
(Visa, MasterCard, Visa Debit, Maestro)

Start Date:_____ Expiry Date:_____ Security No:_____

Issue No:_____ Signature:_____

Delivery and Account Address Details

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____ Post Code:_____

Daytime Telephone Number:_____

This offer closes on Friday 22nd November 2013 and the wines will be shipped for delivery in January 2014.

Please indicate what you would like us to do with your wines when they arrive:

☐ Please store my wines under bond with Private Cellar Reserves LLP

☐ Please deliver my wines to my account address*

* Duty, VAT and delivery are payable when your wines are released for delivery to your home address. Duty is currently £12 per case of 6 bottles before VAT.

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