

## 2011 Calera Aligoté Mt Harlan

**RATING:** 88 points

**PRODUCER:** Calera

**FROM:** Mount Harlan  
San Benito County,  
Central Coast,  
California, USA

**VARIETY:** Aligoté

**DRINK:** 2012-2015

**ISSUE:** WA, #204  
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The 2011 Aligoté offers up dried pears, hazelnuts and sweet spices. A broad-shouldered white, the 2011 impresses for its balance and overall harmony. The aromas and flavors are a little more complex than is typical for this grape, with less of the citrus like-brightness. Regardless, it is a gorgeous wine.

Calera is clearly not in Napa Valley, but these current and upcoming releases are deserving of serious attention, hence their inclusion here. — *Antonio Galloni*

**88**  
points

### 2011 ALIGOTÉ MT. HARLAN

Aligoté, pronounced “Al” (a man’s name) – “ce” – “go” (get moving) – “tay,” is almost completely unknown in the United States. Only a handful of Burgundian producers’ Aligotés are imported into this country, and Calera is one of the very first U.S. wineries to produce the variety. Aligoté is the “other” white variety in Burgundy, after Chardonnay, and has both higher yields and higher acidity than its more famous counterpart.

Our two tiny parcels came about when we grafted about 330 vines over to Aligoté in 2004 and 2007. The 2011 harvest yielded 360 gallons, which has resulted in 1,680 bottles, exactly 140 cases (12 x 750ml bottles).

#### 2011 ALIGOTÉ HARVEST DATA

Dates of harvest: November 1

Tons harvested: 2.15

Tons per acre: 6.1

#### 2011 ALIGOTÉ WINEMAKING DATA

Barrel aging: 6 months in older oak barrels

Malo-lactic fermentation: 100%

Date of bottling: July 9, 2012

