

## **2021** 29 ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon Harvest Dates: September 15–22, 2021 Barrel Age: 20 months, 83% new, 100% French oak Cooperage: Taransaud, Ermitage, Baron, Cadus, Saury Bottling Date: June 7, 2023 Alcohol: 14.8% pH/TA: 3.78 / 0.59 Release Date: October 1, 2024 Cases Produced: 487

**THE VINEYARD** Our 29 Estate Vineyard sits on a hillside just at the "pinch" of Napa Valley's hourglass shape. Excellent airflow provides natural frost protection, while the fertile clay loam soils encourage deeply rooted vines, yielding powerfully concentrated cabernet sauvignon tempered by markedly floral, velvet elegance and explosive aromatic.

**THE VINTAGE** The 2021 growing season began a week or two later than the 2020 season due to a colder than average February and March. A few spring showers helped the vines but the overall dry winter led to slow shoot growth and smaller than average shoots in most cases around the valley. Thankfully, those who started their irrigation program early, April in the case of Vineyard 29 and Aida Estate, were able to convince the shoots to grow to adequate length so that each shoot could ripen its clusters evenly and optimally. Early season frosts were common in the coldest parts of the valley, thus decreasing overall yields come harvest time. The summer growing season was exceptionally good. The consistent weather, beautiful skies and ideal ripening conditions aided in a slow and steady sugar accumulation period alongside excellent tannin development. Harvest was smooth and steady and while yields were lower than average, the grapes were concentrated and flavorful and the resulting wines are stunning. A truly exceptional vintage.

**THE WINE** It is difficult to think of a finer vintage of the '29 Estate' Cabernet Sauvignon than the 2021. No blenders were used this vintage and this 100% Cabernet Sauvignon wine opens with an explosive aromatic profile of violets, black cassis, currants and blueberries. On the palate, juicy boysenberries and plums complement a structure of richness and concentration while firm tannin support an ideal acid structure and promise ageability. From the beginning to the end, this Cabernet is polished, round and supple. The purest expression of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon that we've produced to date. This wine should age indefinitely for several decades.