



2023 29 ESTATE CABERNET FRANC



Composition: 97% Cabernet Franc, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon

Harvest Date: October 17, 2023

Barrel Age: 20 months, 70% new, 100% French oak

Cooperage: Taransaud, Artisan, Ermitage, Orion, Quintessance

Bottling Date: July 21, 2025

Release Date: October 1, 2026

Cases Produced: 311

THE VINEYARD The 29 Estate Vineyard sits on a hillside just at the “pinch” of Napa Valley’s hourglass shape. Planted in 2000, our small cabernet franc block lies on a northwest-facing slope at the southern edge of the 29 Estate —providing the gorgeous vineyard view from the winery’s terrace. A tree line provides afternoon shade in this stressed, rocky block that has incredible drainage, producing deeply concentrated fruit at harvest time.

THE VINTAGE Napa Valley saw approximately 40" of rainfall over the winter of 2022/2023. The 2023 grape growing season began two weeks later than the five year average as a result of the cooler and wetter than average winter and early spring. The vines had an ample amount of water without being oversaturated, shoot growth was steady, flowering and fruit set were also two weeks later than usual, and veraison did not take place in most vineyards until mid-August. Growers and winemakers, at that time, knew that they were in for a long, late harvest. Patience was the name of the game for the 2023 vintage. Early ripening varietals such as Sauvignon Blanc were mostly picked in early to mid-September (as opposed to late August) and the Cabernet harvest lasted until November 10th, a record for Vineyard 29! Mother Nature was extremely generous in 2023 as the weather stayed moderate and the sun kept shining, thus allowing the vines to slowly ripen their clusters. The yields were bountiful and the wines are extremely dark in color (reds), full of aromatics, opulent, rich and juicy. There is amazing acid structure and fully developed tannins across the board for the red varietals. The whites are fresh and delicious as well. The 2023 vintage will go down as one of the greatest, most unique vintages in quite some time.

THE WINE Elegant and expressive, the 2023 Estate Cabernet Franc showcases the beauty of this classic Bordeaux variety. Aromas of violet, lavender, black cherry, and red currant are layered with subtle notes of graphite and cedar. A rich, polished palate reveals flavors of dark plum, blackberry, and baking spice, framed by a firm tannin profile and balanced acidity. Refined and beautifully integrated, this Cabernet Franc delivers remarkable depth, freshness, and a lingering finish that highlights the distinctive character of the Vineyard 29 Estate.