

VARIETY: Cabernet Sauvignon

VINEYARD: San Lucas

APPELLATION: Monterey

HARVEST DATE: Oct 9, 2019

ALCOHOL: 17.5%

PH: 3.76

TA: 6.4 g/L

AGING: 100% Hungarian oak, 18 months

BOTTLING DATE: July 20, 2021

CASES PRODUCED: 135



2019 RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON APPASSIMENTO

TASTING NOTES

Arguably the most important red wine grape in the world, a distinguished Cabernet Sauvignon is one of life's great pleasures. Our Appassimento Cab is made in a style similar to northern Italy's celebrated Amarone and displays a lavish richness that is almost port-like. The grapes are allowed to dry slowly on the vine, which intensely concentrates the flavors. The result is a full-bodied and brooding beauty with generous aromas of blackberry, plum, elderberry and fig, followed by hints of vanilla, tobacco and leather. On the finish this wine is decadent and rich, with a surprising elegance. Drinking beautifully now, this is one to lay down for a decade or more.

VINEYARD

The grapes were sourced from our estate San Lucas Vineyard and specially farmed for this Old World style of wine. Appassimento, or the drying of the grapes, is an ancient technique that promotes dehydration in the grapes so that a higher concentration of sugar develops inside the berries. To achieve this, we cut the canes when the grapes were at 21° Brix. Cutting of the canes doesn't allow any water to move into the berries and doesn't allow sugars to move out. We left the clusters hanging on the vines for an additional three weeks until they reached 31° Brix.

VINTAGE

The 2019 growing season in Monterey County typified the long term average: predictable precipitation followed by consistent growing conditions, moderated by heat spikes. Our vineyards received a whopping 20 inches of rainfall throughout the season, with rain events occurring well into bud break and bloom time. This impacted fruit set and decreased yields. Harvest began in early September and the weather was thankfully dry, with moderate, favorable temperatures. Overall temperate conditions during ripening combined with restrained yields produced fruit of incredible depth.

WINEMAKING

After reaching 31° Brix, the fruit was hand harvested and destemmed into small fermenter bins. After soaking for two days, a small amount of water was added to allow the fermentation to go to dryness. The must was pressed into a stainless steel tank for settling and then racked to 100% Hungarian oak barrels for aging. Necessity being the mother of invention, especially when working with high alcohols, our resourceful winemaking team used aquarium heaters to keep the wine warm and facilitate the secondary fermentation in barrel. The result is worth every extra step in the process: a wine of tremendous depth and complexity.

WINERY & TASTING ROOM

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