

# ANCIENT PEAKS

2019 | CABERNET SAUVIGNON

PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA | SANTA MARGARITA RANCH



## CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### OVERVIEW

Cabernet Sauvignon is the longtime flagship wine of Ancient Peaks, helping drive the emergence of Paso Robles as a world-class region for this classic Bordeaux variety. At our estate Margarita Vineyard, Cabernet Sauvignon achieves both ripeness and balance amid one of the region's coolest, longest growing seasons, all while drawing natural complexity from the vineyard's uniquely complex soils.

### VINEYARD

This wine comes from four distinct Cabernet Sauvignon blocks at Margarita Vineyard. Blocks 11, 13 and 15 all unfold along highly calcareous soils composed of ancient sea bed, which imparts a sense of stony minerality to the fruit. Block 11 is marked by notes of red fruits and dried herbs, while blocks 13 and 15 offer blue fruit flavors with impressive density. Block 49 is rooted in a combination of sea bed and shale soils, and yields a classic Cabernet profile with red and black fruits. The individual qualities of these blocks combine to bring dimension and nuance to the final blend. Margarita Vineyard stands alone as the southernmost vineyard in the Paso Robles region, nestled into the rugged Santa Lucia Mountain range just 14 miles from the Pacific Ocean in the new Santa Margarita Ranch AVA. The mountain peaks act as a gateway for cool marine air, resulting in an extended growing season that yields fruit with uncommon depth and structure. The peaks are also testaments to the tectonic forces that created Margarita Vineyard's rare diversity of soils, ultimately fostering natural complexity in our wines.

### WINEMAKING

The 2019 growing season was marked by a cool spring and early summer, followed by moderate conditions for long, steady ripening through harvest, with low yields fostering excellent concentration. After gentle destemming, the must was cold soaked for 48 hours prior to fermentation for a smooth extraction of color and flavor. After fermentation, the wine was racked to an equal combination of French and American oak barrels, where it aged for 18 months prior to blending and bottling. An inclusion of Merlot from Margarita Vineyard contributed dark berry dimension and mid-palate weight, while a contribution of Cabernet Franc brought aromatic lift. Finally, a dash of Petite Sirah was included in the final blend for enhanced color and structure.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon delivers vivid aromas of violet, boysenberry and black currant with trailing hints of tobacco. The texture is deep and seamless, cascading across the palate with dense flavors of blueberry, cherry and blackberry. Suggestions of black olive, vanilla and mint elevate the experience, which concludes with a remarkable integration of smooth, sleek tannins.

### CUISINE PAIRING

Enjoy the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon with richly textured dishes, including herb-marinated rack of lamb, rosemary-grilled flank steak, filet mignon with black olive sauce, and duck breast with wild mushrooms.

### VINEYARD:

Margarita Vineyard

### VARIETAL COMPOSITION:

Cabernet Sauvignon (83%)  
Merlot (10%)  
Petite Sirah (5%)  
Cabernet Franc (2%)

### SOIL TYPE:

Ancient Sea Bed  
Rocky Alluvium

### HARVEST DATES:

October 18 (Block 11 Cabernet)  
October 23 (Block 13 Cabernet)  
October 23 (Block 15 Cabernet)  
November 3 (Block 49 Cabernet)  
October 14 (Block 15A Merlot)  
October 14 (Petite Sirah)  
November 4 (Block 9 Cabernet Franc)

### AGING REGIMEN:

18 months in French and American oak barrels (30% new)

### FINAL ANALYSIS:

Alcohol: 14.5%

### SRP:

\$22



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