

ANCIENT PEAKS

2019 | PEARL CABERNET SAUVIGNON

PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA | SANTA MARGARITA RANCH



OVERVIEW

The Cabernet Sauvignon Pearl Collection is crafted as the ultimate expression of Cabernet Sauvignon from our estate Margarita Vineyard. Hailing from specially cultivated blocks and aged in 100-percent new French oak barrels, this wine showcases Paso Robles as a world-class region for Cabernet Sauvignon while revealing Margarita Vineyard's striking sense of place.

VINEYARD

Margarita Vineyard boasts a proven track record for growing exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon. Here, uniquely complex soils and a marine-moderated climate combine to deliver fruit with ripeness, structure and dimension. 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 Santa Margarita Ranch AVA. The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Pearl Collection is composed of fruit from the upper portion of Block 15, which yields small berries with dark flavors and savory complexity; and the hillside of Block 49, which produces intensely flavored grapes with an elegant red-blue fruit character. The final blend also includes a small lot of Petit Verdot from Block 35. Each of these sites was isolated at the start of the growing season and given fastidious viticultural attention to produce a Cabernet Sauvignon of extraordinary natural character. Special care was taken in these targeted vineyard blocks to maximize canopy airflow and limit yields for enhanced fruit intensity.

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. The fruit was gently destemmed, cold soaked for three days and fermented in small 10-ton fermenters. Detailed phenolic management during fermentation allowed for the development of a full, round mouthfeel. The individual lots of free-run juice were aged in 100-percent new French oak barrels by Taransaud, Tonnellerie Ô and Sylvain. Each of these barrels featured naturally tight-grained wood for seamless oak integration, as well as medium to medium-plus toasting for judicious complexity. A small lot of Petit Verdot from Margarita Vineyard was incorporated into the final blend for added color, structure and aromatic dimension.

TASTING NOTES

The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Pearl Collection is a showstopper from start to finish, revealing what is possible from Cabernet Sauvignon grown at Margarita Vineyard. It presents voluptuous varietal aromas of black olive, black currant and dried cherry with hints of toasted oak and cigar box. A broad, mouthfilling texture unfolds with deep flavors of blueberry, black cherry, blackberry, mocha, cedar and vanilla bean. Polished tannins glide into a long, seamless finish.

VINEYARD:

Margarita Vineyard

SOIL TYPE:

Ancient Sea Bed Shale

VARIETAL COMPOSITION:

Cabernet Sauvignon 95%
Petit Verdot 5%

HARVEST DATES:

October 23 (Cabernet Sauvignon, Block 15 Upper)
October 24 (Cabernet Sauvignon, Block 49 Hillside)
October 31 (Petit Verdot, Block 35)

AGING REGIMEN:

23 Months in French oak barrels
100% new oak

FINAL ANALYSIS:

Alcohol: 14.9%
TA: .67
pH: 3.70

CASES PRODUCED:

505



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