

# ANCIENT PEAKS

v. 2021 | PEARL CABERNET SAUVIGNON

PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA | SANTA MARGARITA RANCH



## OVERVIEW

The Pearl Cabernet Sauvignon is crafted as the premier 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 expressing Margarita Vineyard's singular terroir.

## VINEYARD

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. Here, uniquely complex soils and a marine-moderated climate combine to deliver Cabernet Sauvignon fruit with ripeness, structure and dimension. The 2021 Pearl Cabernet Sauvignon is composed of fruit from the upper portion of Block 15, which yields small berries with dark flavors and savory complexity; the shale-riddled slope of Block 31, which delivers deep, concentrated varietal flavors; and the hillside of Block 49, which produces intensely flavored grapes with an elegant red-blue fruit character. 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 2021 growing season was marked by temperate weather, extended ripening and dry conditions that fostered excellent flavor concentration—all converging to create a standout vintage in Paso Robles. The fruit was gently destemmed, cold soaked for three days and fermented in small 10-ton fermenters. Detailed phenolic management allowed for the development of a full, round mouthfeel during fermentation. 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. Extended barrel aging for 22 months allowed for perfect integration and maturation prior to bottling. The final blend included a contribution of Cabernet Franc (10%) to brighten and elevate the aroma profile.

## TASTING NOTES

The 2021 Pearl Cabernet Sauvignon is a blockbuster wine that shows the full potential of Cabernet Sauvignon grown at Margarita Vineyard. Scents of violets, blackberry and black currant reveal hints of loam, olive, coffee and graphite. The palate is beautifully weighted, delivering flavors of raspberry and black fruit with subtle accents of mint, mocha and peppercorn. The finish is sleek, fresh and stacked with bold yet polished tannins that promise longevity in the bottle.

## VINEYARD:

Margarita Vineyard

## SOIL TYPE:

Ancient Sea Bed   
Shale 

## VARIETAL COMPOSITION:

Cabernet Sauvignon 90%  
Cabernet Franc 10%

## HARVEST DATES:

October 12 (Block 31 Hillside + Block 15 Upper)  
October 28 (Block 49 Hillside)  
November 3 (Block 9 Cabernet Franc)

## AGING REGIMEN:

22 Months in French oak barrels  
(100% new)

## FINAL ANALYSIS:

Alcohol: 14.6%  
TA: .68  
pH: 3.62

**CASES PRODUCED:**  
878



PEARL COLLECTION

OUR ULTIMATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON FROM MARGARITA VINEYARD  
BORN OF THE SOIL, SHAPED BY THE PACIFIC, PERFECTED BY HAND.

FAMILY OWNED | ESTATE GROWN

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