

# PINE RIDGE

## VINEYARDS

### 2019 STAGS LEAP DISTRICT CABERNET SAUVIGNON



OUR STEEP, DENSELY PLANTED STAGS LEAP DISTRICT ESTATE HAS BEEN THE HEART OF THE WINERY SINCE PINE RIDGE VINEYARDS WAS FOUNDED HERE IN A FARMHOUSE IN 1978. THE SUPPLE TANNINS AND POWERFUL STRUCTURE OF THIS WINE OFFER AN EXQUISITE EXPRESSION OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS STAGS LEAP DISTRICT AVA – THE FIRST AVA DEFINED BY THE UNIQUE DIVERSITY OF ITS SOILS, AND ONE WE WERE PROUD TO HELP ESTABLISH. OUR 2019 STAGS LEAP DISTRICT CABERNET SAUVIGNON IS A BALANCED SELECTION OF GRAPES FROM ALL FOUR OF OUR ESTATE VINEYARDS THAT SHOWCASES THE VARIED SOILS OF OUR SITES, FROM GRAVELLY LOAM TO VOLCANIC RHYOLITIC TUFF.

#### VINTAGE

The 2019 growing season began with a wet, cool spring, and summer was relatively uneventful, with no heat spikes. As a result, veraison did not end until early August in some areas of the valley. Autumn brought hot days and cool nights, which helped the grapes achieve full ripeness while preserving their acidity, and produced full and robust wines with deep color. We harvested on multiple dates from September 24 and October 2 to optimize the attributes desired from each site.

#### VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING

Grapes were hand-harvested at night, when temperatures often dip to 50°F, to capture vibrant acidity and fruit expression. After a gentle cold soak, the grapes fermented in stainless steel, concrete, and oak barrel fermenters at 92°F. Rigorous pump-overs, increasing during peak fermentation, developed deep color, rich varietal character, and fine tannins. 100% new French oak barrel aging melded the bright fruit with oak spice nuances. After three months in barrel, we blended the different vineyard components to give them ample time (another 23 months) to integrate. The wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered to present our terroir in the purest form possible.

#### TASTING & PAIRING NOTES

The deep purple color evokes “Smoke on the Water,” a dark, concentrated mystery. Redolent with blue and black fruits, the aromatics are metered by notes of cinnamon, white pepper, and cola. Vibrant, juicy notes of chocolate-covered blueberry meld with Earl Grey tea and bay leaf. A velvety tannin structure supports the elegant, refined finish and makes this wine irresistible at release, but it should show nicely through 2039. Best enjoyed with a piping hot shepherd’s pie, crafted with love.

#### ANALYSIS

VARIETALS	pH	ALCOHOL
100% Cabernet Sauvignon	3.71	15.5%
	TA	
	5.9 gm/100ml	

#### KEY BRAND FACTS

- From Stags Leap District – the smallest, yet most notable Napa Valley AVA
- Cultivated from 47 acres across four estate vineyards, densely planted with Cabernet Sauvignon and other Bordeaux varieties on steeply terraced hillsides with Bale clay-loam soils, resulting in very low yields of intensely flavored grapes.
- Cave-aged for 26 months in 100% French Oak Barrels

