



# PINE RIDGE

## VINEYARDS

### 2022 CABERNET FRANC

CABERNET FRANC IS ONE OF THE FIVE GREAT BORDEAUX VARIETIES COMMONLY BLENDED INTO LEFT AND RIGHT BANK WINES. WE HAVE THREE PLANTINGS OF CABERNET FRANC CLONES IN OUR ESTATE VINEYARDS SITUATED ACROSS NAPA VALLEY'S FIVE SUB-APPELLATIONS, AND HAVE HISTORICALLY BLENDED IT INTO OUR CABERNET SAUVIGNONS.

#### VINTAGE

The 2022 growing season in Napa Valley saw record-breaking weather events, with 80% of the total rainfall arriving before the new year. This filled vineyard ponds for the first time in two years but was followed by the driest three months on record, leading to an early bud break. Despite the dry spell, healthier canopies resulted from earlier rains. The summer was generally average but slightly warmer than 2021. Harvest started 5 to 7 days earlier than the previous year and was 15% lighter but of exceptional quality. A Labor Day heat wave accelerated harvest, later cooled by a late September rain event. Overall, the 2022 harvest was the most condensed in recent memory.

#### VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING

The 2022 vintage was harvested from September 16th to October 3rd. The grapes were hand-harvested at night when temperatures often dip to 50°F to capture vibrant acidity and fruit expression in the wine.

We first cold-soaked the must (crushed grapes) for gentle extraction and then fermented in stainless steel, concrete and oak barrel fermenters at 88°F. Rigorous pump-overs, increasing during the peak of the fermentation, developed deep color, rich varietal character and fine tannins in the wine. The wine was aged in 25% new French oak barrels to meld the bright fruit expression with oak spice nuances. After three months of aging, we blended the vineyard components allowing them to marry for a total of 20 months of barrel élevage. This wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered to present the attributes of the vineyard in the purest form possible, from the dirt to the glass!

#### ANALYSIS

VARIETALS	ALCOHOL	pH	TA
84% Cabernet Franc	15.5%	3.71	6.1 g/l
7.5% Cabernet Sauvignon			
4% Merlot, 3% Petite Sirah,			
1.5% Malbec			

#### TASTING NOTES

Arriving in the form of subtle spice and berries, the 2022 Cabernet Franc offers aromas of raspberry jam, herbs de Provence and purple flowers. Playful flavors like raspberry Jello greet the palate, shadowed by a warm touch of nutmeg. The lush front-end of the wine features exquisite density, lifted by a bright and persistent acidity. On the back end, there's a divine balance between sweet cocoa powder characteristics and slight green tannin. Drink now through 2032 and enjoy alongside a charcoal-grilled tomahawk steak with rosemary, lemon and olive oil.

