# NINE ESTATES

# **CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

Estate Grown

WINEMAKER Patrick Muran

**CLONES** 33, 35, 169, 337, 15, 4, 8, 31

**ROOT STOCK** 1103P, 5BB, 101-14

HARVEST DATES September 15th - November 1st

> **PH / TA** 3.7/6.2 g/L

ALCOHOL 13.9 %

VINEYARD 80% Bootjack Ranch 20% Heart Hill Vineyard

BLEND 92% Cabernet Sauvignon 4% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot

> BARREL AGING 26 months 43% New French Oak

CASES PRODUCED 3,380



### SITE

The majority of grapes for this wine were grown at Bootjack Ranch. Located in the Geneseo district of Paso Robles, the vineyard has two distinct soil profiles: expansive flats of calcareous soils (ancient crustacean remains) and rolling hills of sandy loam. The flat sections have high lime content, while the hillsides are welldraining. Warm days and cool nights encourage development of classic, dark flavors to create an elegant and classic expression of Cabernet Sauvignon.

# IN THE VINEYARD

The 2017 vintage was the official end of the drought in Paso Robles. Consistent rain throughout winter and cooler temperatures throughout summer helped our grapes mature slowly and evenly. A couple heat spikes towards the end of the growing season made things interesting, but robust vine canopies from the rains protected our Cabernet Sauvignon, and we saw the higher natural tannin and deeper color than we have seen in years. We harvested most in September, 1-2 weeks earlier than normal.

## IN THE WINERY

Our Cabernet Sauvignon program highlights dark fruit and rich texture. Each block is hand harvested and most undergo 20-30 day fermentations to build color, phenolics and flavor. Our winemaker travels to France to visit our barrel coopers each year and selects the best French Oak barrels. We take our time in barrel aging, and 28 months allowed the tannins to soften and the fruit flavors to marry. This is a classic vintage of Cabernet Sauvignon: dark chocolate and cherry flavors, powdery tannins and juicy acidity.