

2020  
**RESERVE  
SYRAH**

Heart Hill Vineyard, Paso Robles  
*100% Syrah*



#### VINEYARD

The 2020 vintage was unforgettable. For the first half of the growing season our vineyards were an escape from the rest of the world with well-timed rains in the spring, no frost events and moderate to cool temperatures through July. However, conditions changed dramatically in August and September with two separate weeks of record-breaking heat which accelerated ripening. In addition, fires to the north and south of us brought periods of smoke exposure. Syrah is thick-skinned and handles heat well, and the smoke did not linger long enough to taint the grapes. For this Reserve bottling, we harvested four of Winemaker Patrick's favorite blocks throughout the month of September.

#### WINEMAKING

We selected four different Syrah clones for this wine to create complexity from a single-vineyard expression. We began by fermenting each separately in stainless steel and wood casks. Blocks 18 and 22 were whole-cluster-pressed before fermentation, and blocks 6 and 25 both fermented with 20% whole cluster. After fermentation, the wines aged in a special selection of 225L and 500L barrels. After one year, we hand-selected the top 10 barrels for the final blend, which we aged an additional 8 months. This is a rich, concentrated wine with notes of blueberry, oregano and coffee. Fresh acidity and refined tannins make it an age-worthy addition to any collection.

WINEMAKER	Patrick Muran
CLONES	877, Alban, 174
BLOCKS	25, 6, 18, 22
AVERAGE BRIX	26.4
pH/TA	3.8/6.1 g/L
ALCOHOL	14.5%
AVERAGE YIELD	2.6 tons/acre
BARREL AGING	20 months
COOPERAGE	48% new French Oak