## NINE ESTATES

2021 CLUB 9 Bootjack Ranch & Heart Hill Vineyard

WINEMAKER Mark McGrail

HARTVEST DATES September 14th - October 21st

**CLONE** 4, 400, 2, 169, 84, 4, 8, 35, 11

**BLOCK** A6, A8, A1, A9, B3b, B10, A14, B2b, B4a

> AVERAGE BRIX 24.4

> > **pH / TA** 3.8/6.0

**ALCOHOL** 13.6%

## BLEND

34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Petit Verdot, 22% Cabernet Franc, 11% Barbera, 6% Malbec, 4% Syrah

> **COOPERAGE** 34% new French oak

> > BARREL AGING 21 Months



## VINEYARD

The 2021 vintage is a benchmark for a dry and cool vintage in Paso Robles. The vintage started with a dry winter and a cool spring which resulted in restrained canopy growth, a slightly lower-than-average fruit set and small berries. Thankfully, the weather was exceptional the rest of the growing season with moderate temperatures allowing for slow, even ripening and the flexibility to pick at just the right time during harvest. 2021 wines are wonderfully complex and should age gracefully. We harvested the fruit for this wine between September 14th and October 21st.

## **IN THE WINERY**

Each year, we bring staff members together for a friendly blending competition to make this wine. Our Winemakers choose the varietals, and each staff member composes their own blend. Everyone blind tastes and votes for their favorite blend. In 2021, our Cellar Technician, Mark McGrail, composed the winning blend with a base of Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc with accent pieces of Barbera, Malbec and Syrah. The blend was aged in 34% new French oak barrels for 21 months. The wine is equal parts vibrant and rich with notes of pomegranate, dark cherry and plum, hints of cinnamon and cedar, and brushy tannins on the finish.