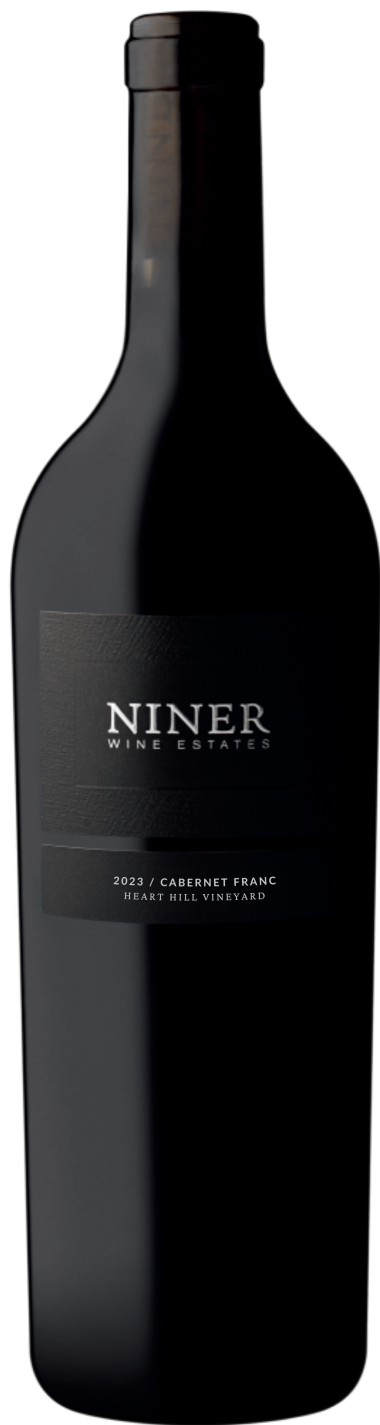


2023  
**RESERVE  
CABERNET FRANC**

Heart Hill Vineyard, Paso Robles

100% *Cabernet Franc*



#### VINEYARD

The 2023 vintage was long and cool and has been hailed by many local growers as one of the best vintages of the decade. The growing season started with a definitive end to three years of drought. We received 28 inches of rain over the winter with a series of storms that caused memorable flooding in the county. A cool spring delayed bud break across all varieties and was followed by a foggy and temperate summer with very few days above 80 degrees. This Cabernet Franc was hand-harvested from the hilltop section of one of our oldest blocks in the vineyard. Here, elevation, exposure and soils combine to create fruit that ripens into a generously textured, mouth-coating wine with rich, dark fruit. We hand-harvested the grapes between October 9<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.

#### WINEMAKING

We hand-sorted and destemmed the grapes and fermented them in a stainless steel tank. Fermentation was short and gentle, lasting 10 days with brief pump-overs to guide extraction while preserving the purity of fruit. We pressed the wine at dryness, and aged it for 20 months in French oak barrels. This is the absolute best Cabernet Franc of the vintage, with black cherry, plum and blackberry flavors alongside rich espresso and baking spices.

WINEMAKER	Patrick Muran
CLONES	327
BLOCKS	H2
AVERAGE BRIX	25.3°
pH/TA	3.78/5.3 g/L
ALCOHOL	14.7%
AVERAGE YIELD	2.8 tons/acre
BARREL AGING	20 months
COOPERAGE	30% New French Oak
CASES PRODUCED	344