

# NINER

WINE ESTATES

## 2014 FOG CATCHER ESTATE GROWN

**WINEMAKER**  
Patrick Muran

**CLONES**  
337, 327, 400, 595, 8, 1

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

**HARVEST DATES**  
September 14th - October 8th

**AVERAGE YIELDS**  
3.1 tons/acre

**AVERAGE BRIX**  
25.8°

**pH / TA**  
3.54/ 6.5 g/L

**ALCOHOL**  
14.9%

**VINEYARD BLEND**  
80% Heart Hill Vineyard  
20% Bootjack Ranch

**VARIETAL BLEND**  
37% Cabernet Franc  
29% Petit Verdot  
28% Cabernet Sauvignon  
6% Malbec

**COOPERAGE**  
75% New French Oak  
25% Neutral Oak

**BARREL AGING**  
28 months

**CASES PRODUCED**  
590

**RETAIL PRICE**  
\$100



### SITE

The grapes for this wine were grown at a combination of both of our Paso Robles vineyards: Heart Hill Vineyard in the Willow Creek District and Bootjack Ranch in the Geneseo District. Heart Hill is named for the naturally occurring grove of oak trees in the shape of a heart facing Highway 46 West. Bootjack Ranch is the oldest of our estate vineyards is the most unforgiving - requiring intelligent vineyard set up and intensive soil management to produce high-quality fruit.

### IN THE VINEYARD

Despite the ongoing drought (and in some cases because of it) the 2014 vintage was fantastic. A warm and dry winter lead to an early bud-break with the season's largest and only rainstorm shortly after. It was a miracle storm as it lead to healthy root system development, full canopies, and good vine balance.

### IN THE WINERY

Our winemaking team begins by selecting the best fruit from the six different Bordeaux varieties we farm. From there each varietal was fermented and barrel aged separately. After 14 months a combination of Cabernet, Malbec and Petit Verdot barrels were identified as the best of the vintage. We then composed the blend and returned it to barrel for another 14 months to achieve a level of cohesion and melding of flavors that isn't possible from simple post aging blending.

### TASTING NOTES

Fog Catcher is always comprised of the best Bordeaux blends of the year and the 2014 vintage exceeded expectations. Aromatics of dark blackberry, brushy herb and vanilla bean radiate from the glass and continue to develop into deeper layers of rich fruit and cinnamon as you swirl. The palate drapes delicate floral and fruit components over a structured mouthfeel to create a rich and glamorous experience outlined by impressive + dense tannins. Extended bottle aging will heavily benefit this wine and decanting is recommended, especially in its youth.