

# NINER

WINE ESTATES

2017

## BOOTJACK RED

*Estate Grown*

### WINEMAKER

Patrick Muran

### AVERAGE BRIX

24.6

### PH / TA

3.7 / 6.1

### ALCOHOL

13.5

### BLEND

31% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21%  
Malbec, 13% Merlot, 13%  
Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot,  
6% Carmenere, 4% Syrah, 3%  
Mourvedre, 3% Zinfandel

### COOPERAGE

48% New French Oak

### BARREL AGING

21 Months



### SITE

The grapes in this blend were grown at our two estate vineyards in Paso Robles. Heart Hill Vineyard is located in the Willow Creek District and Bootjack Ranch in the Geneseo District. Only 13 miles apart, differences in soil and climate between the two create very different expressions of place. We find that both vineyards complement each other in a blend to produce a wine that is a great representation of the quality that Paso Robles can achieve.

### IN THE VINEYARD

2017 marked the end of the drought in Paso Robles with a rainy winter and a return to healthy vines and good canopy growth in the spring. It was a relatively temperate year until a couple of heat spikes in August and September made things interesting. Fortunately patience in the vineyard was rewarded as moderate weather followed into the harvest months. As a result we were able to achieve slow, even maturation with lower than average sugar accumulation.

### IN THE WINERY

Our goal in the winery was to treat each varietal separately using techniques that preserve the best characteristics of each. As a foundation we used Cabernet Sauvignon for structure, Malbec for a juicy component, Cabernet Franc for fine tannin and length, and Merlot for subtle fruit and finesse. All other varietals in the blend are accent pieces, each adding spice and different fruit characteristics. The barrels selected along with the amount of time spent in barrel brought all of the individual pieces together in a cohesive way.