

NINER

WINE ESTATES

2013 MALBEC ESTATE GROWN

WINEMAKER
Patrick Muran

CLONES
595,11, 598, 9, 327

ROOT STOCK
101-14, 1103P, GRN-3

HARVEST DATES
September 10 - September 13

AVERAGE YIELDS
2.1 tons/acre

AVERAGE BRIX
26.3°

PH / TA
3.5/ 6.3 g/L

ALCOHOL
14.9%

VINEYARD BLEND
62% Heart Hill, 38% Bootjack

VARIETAL BLEND
91% Malbec,
5% Cabernet Sauvignon,
4% Cabernet Franc

COOPERAGE
50% French, 30% Hungarian,
20% American
40% New

BARREL AGING
18 months

CASES PRODUCED
700

RETAIL PRICE
\$30



SITE

The majority of the grapes for this wine were grown at Heart Hill Vineyard in the Willow Creek District of Paso Robles which is named for the naturally occurring grove of oak trees in the shape of heart facing 46 West. The vineyard is composed almost entirely of south-facing, hillside plantings on steep rocky slopes of primarily siliceous shale. The growing season is long due to the ocean breezes that whip through the Templeton Gap in the Santa Lucia Mountain Range to the west and offer a consistent afternoon cooling effect.

IN THE VINEYARD

2013 was the driest year ever recorded. Early and often irrigation sets were necessary to carry us through the 2013 vintage, and dry soil profiles meant early bud break, bloom and harvest. Milder temperatures coupled with the maturing of our young blocks lead to much more complexity in our wines across the board.

IN THE WINERY

This grape is an insider favorite at the winery. A versatile grape, Malbec often sits in the shadows of Cabernet Sauvignon, but we find this wine absolutely delicious. Naturally rich in color, full tannins and juiciness, we layered three different types of oak during aging to build complexity, and a touch of Cab and Cab Franc to add refinement.

TASTING NOTES

Normally viewed as a blending grape, the perfumed nose on this wine is perfectly fine as a standalone. Ripe with aromas of blueberry, wet leather and chalk, the wine unfolds into a weighty palate with chewy tannins & a cinnamon spiced finish.