

NINER

WINE ESTATES

2023

SUPER PASO

Heart Hill Vineyard, Willow Creek District of Paso Robles

WINEMAKER

Patrick Muran

CLONE

877, 174, 470, 47, 400, 383, 7

ROOTSTOCK

1103P, 140R

HARVEST DATES

October 3–November 8, 2023

AVERAGE BRIX

25°

AVERAGE YIELD

2.8 Tons/Acre

pH / TA

3.75/5.6 g/L

ALCOHOL

14.5%

VINEYARD

100% Heart Hill Vineyard

BLEND

64% Syrah, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon,
16% Petit Verdot

COOPERAGE

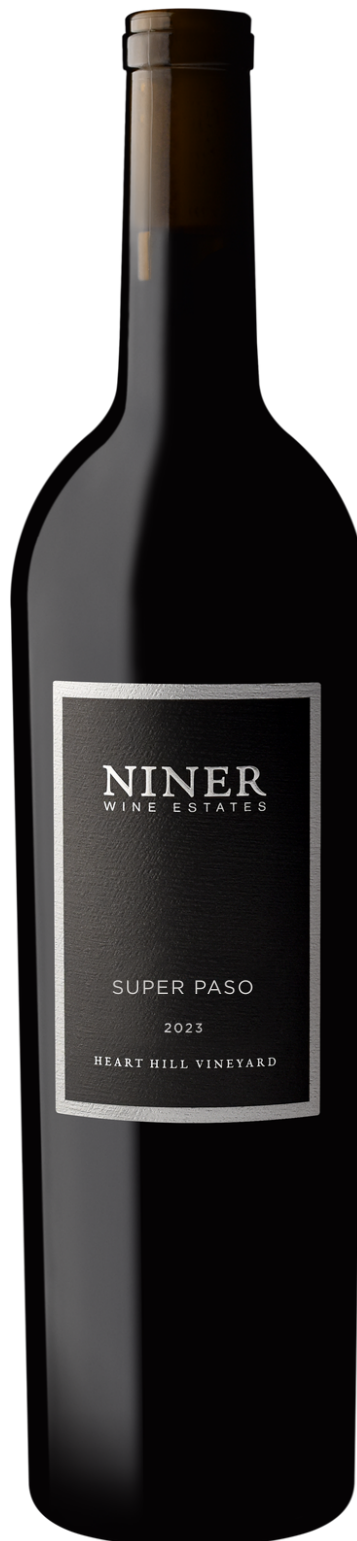
24 months, 30% New French oak,
8 months, 50 HL French oak cask

BARREL AGING

32 months

CASES PRODUCED

974



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. The long, cool growing season produced beautifully balanced fruit and set the stage for an extended, slow aging process of 32 months. We harvested the grapes for this blend from seven vineyard blocks between October 3rd and November 8th, 2023.

WINEMAKING

The name “Super Paso” is our tribute to “Super Tuscan” – blends made by Italian winemakers who scorned tradition and added non-indigenous grapes to their blends. The 2023 Super Paso is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, and Petit Verdot: a powerful showcase of varieties that thrive in Paso Robles' Willow Creek District. This wine is a blend of three distinct components. The foundation is built on a 20-day co-fermentation of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. The second component comes from our 17-year-old Syrah, fermented with 20% dried stem inclusion which added layers of subtle spice. The final component is Petit Verdot, fermented separately in stainless steel before completing malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels. One of the longest-aged wines in our history, it spent two years in French oak barrels followed by eight months in a 50 hL French oak cask. This extended aging allowed the individual components to harmonize, resulting in a wine of remarkable structure and balance.