



## ARAUJO ESTATE WINES 2001 ALTAGRACIA

### WINEGROWING INFORMATION

A mild winter with only two-thirds of normal rainfall preceded the 2001 growing season, which began early with warm, dry conditions. A surprise Spring frost caused significant concern, but the weather then turned warm and flowering and fruit-set occurred quickly and very uniformly. Heat in May and June kept cluster sizes small but accelerated development. Cooler weather in July and August allowed tannin maturity to catch up with fruit maturity, producing strong natural acidities and intense flavors. This 2001 Altagracia is the result of six distinct lots of Cabernet Sauvignon blended with Petit Verdot and newly planted Merlot. All of the fruit was harvested at night. Each of the lots went through individual cold-soaks, extended macerations, and natural fermentations in small stainless steel tanks. The wine was aged in 100% new French oak barrels for 21 months and bottled in June of 2003. The lots chosen for the 2001 Altagracia were selected for their intensity of flavor and for the bright, youthful, and exuberant flavors inherent in our younger Cabernet Sauvignon vines.

### TASTING NOTES

The distinctive aromas of this wine are tightly focused with notes of black cherry, cedar and dark chocolate along with hints of anise. On the palate, the wine is rich and intense with classic berry notes and a silky tannin structure that is supported by additional layers of saffras, violet and wet granite. The lingering finish is round, supple and luscious, leaving behind notes of cherry cola and earthy roasted chocolate flavors. Winemaker Francoise Peschon notes: *This wine delivers a wonderful combination of textures and expressiveness that are reminiscent of cassis and ripe plums with earthy nuances of nutmeg and roasted cocoa nib. The lingering mouth feel is smooth and seductive and possesses an elegance typical of the Eisele Vineyard.*

### GRAPE SOURCE

80% Cabernet Sauvignon Eisele Vineyard  
12% Merlot Eisele Vineyard  
8% Petit Verdot Eisele Vineyard  
Napa Valley

### PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol: 14.61%  
Total Acidity: 0.62  
pH: 3.67  
Production: 595 cases  
Release Date: May 1, 2004

2155 PICKETT ROAD · CALISTOGA, CA 94515  
P 707.942.6061 · F 707.942.6471