



## ARAUJO ESTATE WINES 2007 ALTAGRACIA

### WINEGROWING INFORMATION

Warm temperatures in early spring and lower than average rainfall resulted in an early start to the stunning 2007 growing season, with budbreak occurring in mid-March. The lack of rain continued through spring and the vines responded to the dry soils by producing a healthy, controlled canopy and an excellent fruit set of small berries. The dry weather and corresponding lack of vigor allowed the vineyard crew to focus on thinning the clusters in a timely manner, while the lack of humidity kept disease and pest pressures to a minimum. After the onset of summer, cool and consistent temperatures prevailed through the end of the season, with few unseasonably warm days, creating optimal conditions for slow, steady ripening and balanced acidity in the fruit. After the early start to the growing season, the harvest began slightly earlier than normal, with the first block of Cabernet harvested on September 11th and the final grapes picked on September 29th. The fruit was sorted, de-stemmed and cold-soaked, undergoing native yeast fermentations and long macerations in small stainless steel tanks. The wine was aged in 100% new French oak barrels for 27 months and bottled in February 2010. The grapes were certified 'Organic' by California Certified Organic Farmers, and 'Biodynamic' by Demeter.

### TASTING NOTES

The beautiful vintage of 2007 reveals itself initially in the nose of this wine, our second Cabernet-based wine from the estate. Rich aromas of black currant, blackberry, and ripe plum are complemented by notes of slate, wet earth, sandalwood, tobacco and herbes de Provence. In the mouth, the wine shows its breeding with balanced weight and acidity, a beautiful core of sweet fruit and silky tannins, followed by a lingering, pronounced mineral finish. Notes winemaker Matt Taylor: *The purity of this wine is expressed by its integrated and fully resolved tannins wound around a plush and seductive core of sweet fruit. With its classic flavors of black fruit, earthy tobacco and a long mineral finish, it is classic Eisele Vineyard wine produced from a perfect growing season.*

### GRAPE SOURCE

90% Cabernet Sauvignon Eisele Vineyard  
6% Merlot Eisele Vineyard  
4% Petit Verdot Eisele Vineyard  
Napa Valley

### PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol: 14.8%  
Total Acid: 0.62g/100ml  
pH: 3.74  
Production: 450 Cases  
Release Date: May 1, 2010

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