



## ARAUJO ESTATE WINES 2009 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### WINEGROWING INFORMATION

The fine 2009 growing season began with a dry January, suggesting a third year of drought weather, but rains in February and again in May helped the reservoirs fill to capacity and provided much needed moisture to the vineyard. The fruit set was excellent and the vines were poised to grow rapidly, but some noticeable heat in June kept the plants in check and reduced the amount of canopy management for the crew. Temperatures throughout the summer remained on the cool side with plenty of morning fog, allowing the vines to slowly ripen their crop without typical heat stress until short heat spikes in late August helped push the berries to perfect ripeness while maintaining superb acidity. Harvest began somewhat early; the first block of Cabernet was harvested on September 16th and the final grapes were picked on October 12th. The fruit was sorted, destemmed and cold-soaked, undergoing native yeast fermentations and macerations in small stainless steel and concrete tanks. The wine was aged in 100% new French oak barrels for 23 months and bottled in October 2011.

### TASTING NOTES

On the nose, this wine exudes rich and ripe aromas of bramble, wild raspberry, black cherry and scorched earth with notes of lavender, dried rose petals, sage, bay laurel, loam and bittersweet chocolate. On the palate, its velvety, supple texture supports ripe flavors of sweet plum and black cherry with notes of fresh-turned earth and vanilla bean, followed by a persistent finish evocative of broken stones. Notes winemaker Nigel Kinsman: *This wine's super-fine-grained tannins provide a framework for the luscious fruit intensity and lingering minerality in the finish. It exhibits amazing focus and poise.*

### GRAPE SOURCE

99% Cabernet Sauvignon Eisele Vineyard  
0.6% Petit Verdot Eisele Vineyard  
0.4% Cabernet Franc Eisele Vineyard  
Napa Valley

### PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL DATA

Alcohol: 14.8%  
Total Acid: 6.3 g/L  
pH: 3.73  
Production: 1600 cases  
Release date: October 1, 2012

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