

#### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

APPELLATION: North Coast

VARIETALS:

76% Cabernet Sauvignon,

24% Merlot

ALCOHOL: 14.2% by vol.

PH: 3.84

TA: 5.3 g/L

AGING: Combination of mostly neutral French oak and stainless steel tanks for 16 months



## SOMMELIER SELECTION

NORTH COAST CABERNET SAUVIGNON
2021

For the past 10 years, a group of influential sommeliers from the finest restaurants have crafted the Raymond Sommelier Selection Cabernet Sauvignon. With the 2019 vintage, we are giving back to this wonderful community who is an integral part of the wine world.

With every bottle sold, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the United Sommeliers Foundation to help support those in need. Blended by Director of Winemaking, Stephanie Putnam, this Cabernet Sauvignon is not only a tribute to sommeliers, but it continues to celebrate the long tradition of complementing exceptional meals with just the right wine.

### ABOUT THE VINTAGE

2021 was a smooth and uneventful harvest season. June started out warm, followed by a cool and foggy July and August that slowed ripening and caused nice retention of acidity. Even ripening, with no extreme heat events, made for ideal growing conditions. Sparse winter rains resulted in an early budbreak, evenly developed clusters, and smaller berries packed full of flavor. Overall, the fruit was exceptional, making it another amazing year for quality.

### CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

This blend is comprised of fruit from four unique appellations: Napa Valley, Sonoma County, Mendocino County and Lake County. The fruit from Napa Valley went through extended maceration, spending an average of 26 days on the skins. The other appellations were pressed off at dryness to retain freshness and their varietal characteristics. The blend was aged in a combination of mostly neutral French oak barrels and stainless steel tanks to allow the fruit to fully express itself and become the perfect pairing for food.

# WINE PROFILE

Aromas of red berries and dark cocoa spring from the medium red hued glass. With a medium to full-body, this wine softly coats the palate with refreshing flavors of blueberry, bramble and white pepper. The finish is long and lingering with a round mouthfeel and just a touch of minerality.