

2020 EISELE VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEGROWING INFORMATION

The 2020 growing season was challenging from the very beginning, with a combination of warm temperatures and low winter rainfall that prevented an early bud break. The continuing trend in the Spring led to the highest water deficit recorded during canopy expansion and consecutively an early onset of stress. The vines adapted quickly to these exceptional conditions, setting the stage for naturally low yields. Growth was harmonious and the balance between the size of the canopy and the quantity of fruit was perfect. Veraison progressed smoothly as the summer followed a normal pattern of cool nights and warmer days, but heat spikes intensified in September. The dry-farmed Cabernets were picked on September 10th, followed by the young vines. September 15th marked the beginning of harvest for the parcels bordering Simmons Creek and concluded on September 24th, just three days before the start of the Glass Fire.

Meticulous sorting was implemented at the cluster table by our crew before the berries made their way to the fermentation vessels. The excellent ripeness level of the skins and seeds allowed a smooth and balanced extraction. This 2020 vintage was aged for 18 months in a combination of French oak barrels (55%) and Austrian oak foudres (45%), for a savory combination of ripe fruit and spicy notes. As a result of carefully managed yields and uncompromising selection, 2020 is the smallest vintage at Eisele Vineyard since the 1991-1993 period during which the estate was being completely replanted.

The Eisele Vineyard grapes are certified 'Organic' by CCOF and 'Biodynamic' by Demeter.

TASTING NOTES

Born in a challenging context, the 2020 Eisele Vineyard Cabernet is a magnificent wine that speaks unmistakably of the quality of its birthplace. The wine emerges from the glass carrying the richness of a summer fruit basket with notes of raspberry coulis, blackberry pie, violet candy and blueberry preserves. The nose opens on complex layers of forest soil, pine needles, cacao powder and cinnamon to create a high-tone bouquet. The mouthfeel is round and luxurious with succulent powdery tannins accompanied by black pepper, arabica and cinnamon. The fragrant and juicy finish lingers on the palate with notes of elderberry and rose petals. The 2020 vintage is a very evocative combination of the place and the time that gave it light, highlighting the consistency and elegance of the Eisele Vineyard terroir.

GRAPE SOURCE

100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Eisele Vineyard, Napa Valley

875 cases produced

Release date: June 7, 2023