

2020

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON

PASO ROBLES

1197 Cases | Bottled June 3, 2022

**Suggested Retail:** \$25

### FLYING CLOUD

Flying Cloud is produced at Stephen Ross Wine Cellars.

For winemaker Stephen Ross Dooley the variety Cabernet Sauvignon invokes fond memories of his first decade of producing wine in the Napa Valley at Louis M. Martini winery in the early eighties. Stylistically, the wine is hearty and balanced with pleasing aromas and flavors characteristic of the variety, with a sense of place or *terroir* and has supple fine tannins. The name Flying Cloud pays tribute to the Eden Prairie airport in Mr. Dooley's home state of Minnesota.

### VINTAGE

2020 will be remembered for its COVID-19 pandemic. Budbreak came a little on the late side due to late-season rainfall. Zero frost issues hampered the beginning of bud break which was followed by a temperate May and June. July proved to be cooler than average, which helped flowering happen under good conditions and strengthen vine health. Conditions changed decidedly in August and September, which were more than 20-percent warmer than average. There were two separate weeks of record heat, one in mid-August and one in early September, albeit several weeks before the Cabernet Sauvignon was ready to pick.

### WINEMAKING

This Cabernet Sauvignon was made using classic Bordeaux methods of production; the grapes were de-stemmed and crushed into small stainless steel tanks, pumped-over daily during the peak of fermentation, three weeks of skin contact, lightly pressed with a state-of-the-art stainless steel basket press, and aged in neutral French oak barrels for eighteen months.

#### Vineyard:

Jack Knife Vineyard 96%, *Certified Organically grown.*

Blind Faith Vineyard 4%, *Certified Organically grown.*

**Varieties:** 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petite Sirah

**Average grape analysis:** 25.1 °Brix, 4.2 g/l T.A., 3.83 pH

#### Harvest:

Hand-harvested October 15 and 17, 2020.

#### Fermentation:

20-day skin contact, fermented in small stainless-steel tanks

#### Aging:

Aged in Four-year old French oak barrels for 18 months

**Alcohol:**

**pH:**

**T.A.:**

13.8%

3.83

5.7 g/L

**FLYING CLOUD**  
WINERY



### TASTING NOTES

The wine has brilliant clarity with a deep brick red color. The aromas are uplifting, and reminiscent of blackberry, sage, and a hint of menthol. On the palate the wine is full bodied with fine grippy tannins and pleasing flavors of red plum and dried orange peel. This is an approachable Cabernet Sauvignon with balance and lingering flavors.