

TWO THOUSAND SEVEN

GHIELMETTI VINEYARD CLONE FOUR

PREMIER CABERNET COLLECTION

THE SITE - The Ghielmetti Vineyard encompasses 64.86 acres of vines and is located 3.4 miles east of our Tesla Road Barrel Room. Planted to 11 different grapes on 20 distinct blocks, this topographically varied vineyard has become one of the finest sites in the Livermore Valley for Cabernet Sauvignon. Indeed, of 64.86 acres, the 18.07 planted to five different clones of Cabernet reveal both our commitment to the varietal and our sense of the potential quality of the vineyard. A mixture of soils ranging from fine sandy loam at the western edge of the site to clay intrusions uphill to the east have been matched to the specific characteristics of each clone, maximizing the potential for world class quality.

THE BLOCK - Block 2 is the home to Cabernet Sauvignon, Clone 4. This block, which contains 64 rows and 3,385 vines, is the most northerly of the eight blocks in the only section of the vineyard planted west of the arroyo. Block 2 is composed of three soil types: Zamora silt loam, Positas gravelly loam, and Perkins loam. Running gently downhill toward Tesla Road, Block 2 sits at an elevation of approximately 500' above sea level. Other details:

- Size: 3.2 acres
- Rootstock: 101-14
- Spacing: 7' x 6'
- Vines: 3385
- Orientation: NW to SE
- Yield: 1.2 tons/acre

THE CLONE - A vine clone is a specimen of plant material chosen for specific characteristics. Over the course of time, a vine may show desirable characteristics that the grower wants to propagate to other vineyard sites. The cuttings from this vine have the identical genetic makeup of the "mother" vine and can, depending upon the new sites, display many of the desired traits. Clone 4 is also called the *Mendoza* clone as it was brought to America from the city of Mendoza in Argentina. The clone is known for its moderate production level (4-5 tons/acre), dark color levels, and spiciness of aromatics. Of the ten or so major Cabernet clones, Clone 4 is in the middle range in terms of its bunch size, and the number of bunches per vine. On the Ghielmetti Vineyard site, this clone show distinctly elongated bunch shape, and an open cluster morphology compared to the other clones here.

THE BARRELS - The following barrels were chosen for this Premier Cabernet Collection release:

Barrel #	Cooper	Country	Forest/Grain	Toasting Level
06-500	Latour	France		Medium, Toasted Heads
06-502b	Francois-Frères	France	Allier	Medium, Toasted Heads
07-279	Le Grand	France		<i>Classique</i>
07-282	Trust	Hungary		Medium+, Toasted Heads

THE WINE- This powerhouse wine emphasizes aromatic notes of semi-sweet chocolate, graphite, mocha, cassis, and black cherry liqueur. On entry, rich and viscous flavors of dark fruit, licorice, and cocoa unfurl slowly (much more organoleptic complexity and clarity of structure come through after several hours of decanting) leading to a broadening of tannins through the mid-palate. On the finish, the full tannic scope of the wine comes through as the flavors show lengthy persistence. The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, Clone 4 is less herbaceous than it was in 2006, trading in a subtle exotic wood for more power and age-worthiness. This Cabernet will benefit from several years of bottle age, beginning to show all of its grandeur in 2014. With care, this wine should age effortlessly through 2020. Fewer than 250 three-packs and a small number of magnums were produced in this vintage.

