



## La Joie 1999

### PHILOSOPHY

VÉRITÉ LA JOIE WAS INSPIRED BY THE IDEAL OF MARRYING THE CLASSIC APPROACH OF THE FRENCH *vigneron* TO THE EXQUISITE POTENTIAL OF SONOMA COUNTY FRUIT. PIERRE SEILLAN BRINGS 35 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF VINEYARDS AND WINEGROWING TO THE PROCESS OF HAND-SELECTING INDIVIDUAL VINEYARD BLOCKS ACROSS KEY GROWING REGIONS.

THESE BLOCKS, OR *crus* AS PIERRE REFERS TO THEM, WERE SELECTED BASED ON DIVERSE CRITERIA OF SLOPE, SOIL, CLIMATE, ELEVATION, AGE OF VINES AND ASPECT SPECIFICALLY FOR THEIR POTENTIAL TO EXPRESS A STRONG SENSE OF TERROIR. IN THE WINERY, PIERRE COAXES FROM EACH LOT THE PUREST EXPRESSION OF THOSE SITE-SPECIFIC ATTRIBUTES. FINALLY, IN THE BLENDING PROCESS, HE BALANCES THE CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH *cru* TO PRODUCE FINISHED WINES THAT RETAIN THEIR OVERALL SENSE OF TERROIR, BUT ARE MORE BALANCED AND ELEGANT THAN ANY OF THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENT *crus* MIGHT BE ON THEIR OWN.

### TASTING NOTES

THERE'S SUPERB FRUIT HERE, AND WHAT SOME TERM "GRIP" OR STRUCTURE. IN OUR CONTEXT, THIS IMPLIES WEIGHT AND FLAVOR AND NOT HEAVINESS OR OVERPOWERING DENSITY. THE PURITY OF THE FRUIT OF VÉRITÉ LA JOIE IS HARD TO RESIST NOW, BUT IT WILL BECOME EVEN MORE VELVETY, WITHOUT LOSING ITS DARK FRUIT, DURING THE NEXT DECADE.

### COMPOSITION

59% CABERNET SAUVIGNON  
41% MERLOT

### VINEYARD SOURCES

Estate Vineyard	Alexander Mountain Estate	Bennett Mountain	Kellogg	Stagecoach
Appellation	Alexander Valley	Sonoma Valley	Knights Valley	Atlas Peak
Slope	Southwest Facing	Northwest Facing	Southwest Facing	North Facing
Soil Type	Rocky Volcanic	Sandy Loam	Gravelly Volcanic	Alluvial Gravel
Elevation <i>Feet Above Sea Level</i>	800-900 Feet	550-620 Feet	500-960 Feet	250 Feet
Average Yield	2 tons/ acre	2 tons/ acre	2 tons/ acre	2 tons/ acre
Age of Vines	10 years of age	15 years of age	20 years of age	10 years of age

### SPECIFICS

ALCOHOL: 13.7%  
pH: 3.64  
T.A.: 0.58 G/100 ML

