Austin Hope

## 2021 MALBEC

Austin Hope is in constant motion and a lifelong learner. He continually pushes his team to explore and experiment with new varietals, new techniques and concepts that will ultimately improve the quality of his wines for everyone to enjoy. When a particular trial or experiment exceeds expectations, Austin is able to share it with the Cellar Club. These small production wines are truly the result of his lifelong passion and yours to enjoy.

#### HARVEST NOTES

We source our Malbec from a vineyard on the east side of Paso Robles in the Estrella District. Malbec grows well in the warm climate of this district. Sandy loam soils help for good water drainage. The 2021 growing season was very typical through early spring with warm days and cool nights. Early summer through harvest gave us some unexpected heatwaves but plenty of marine breezes and mild weather prevailed. The result was a slight delay of harvest while we waited for acidity, pH and brix to balance creating mature flavors.

#### WINEMAKING NOTES

After harvest, the Malbec was fermented in stainless-steel tanks for 10-14 days. Extended macerations and carefully managed pump overs enhanced the extraction of color and tannin. The Malbec was aged for 9 months in neutral American and French Oak. The lots were racked only once during its cellar life, with the final racking occurring to blend, just prior to filtering and bottling in mid-July of 2022.

### TASTING NOTES

Our Austin Hope Malbec is a gorgeous display of power and strength. Indulge in aromas of fresh plum, sweet tobacco and cocoa. Fresh Flavors of red plum, blackberry and vanilla develop into refined, dusty tannins that frame this full-bodied wine perfectly, leaving flavors of sweet oak on the finish.

#### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

VARIETAL(S): 100% Malbec AVA: Paso Robles HARVEST DATE: 9/15/21 OAK PROGRAM: 100% Neutral French and American Oak TIME IN OAK: 9 Months ALCOHOL: 14.50% pH: 3.80 TOTAL ACIDITY: 0.60 g tartaric/100mL

# CELLAR SELECT SERIES

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