



CASTORO CELLARS

2022 CARIGNANE WHALE ROCK VINEYARD

There are six acres of Carignane in our organically grown Whale Rock Vineyard located in the Templeton Gap AVA of Paso Robles. One of the most planted grapes in France, it's used extensively for blending because of the natural acidity, bright fruit flavors, and fullness of the mouthfeel. This variety is one of our last to be picked as it slowly ripens with the Templeton Gap influence. The natural acidity and supple tannins make this a great wine to enjoy with a meal and it ages very gracefully.

- NIELS & BIMMER UDSEN, Founders

HARVEST NOTES:

After 40 harvests one would think all possibilities would have been exhausted and there would be repeat scenarios. I may have to do another 40 to see that happen! Vintage 2022 started with enormous potential for an average yield but with superior quality. The spring was warm, bloom and set saw no bad weather and the summer began perfectly. Our cluster counts were good, and the weather portended for an early harvest. But...there is always a but, just as the berries were sizing up a tremendous heat wave settled in over California and the vines struggled; the berries stayed small, and the yields shrunk. Harvest was still early. The resulting wines though are looking amazing with deep color and wonderful ripe fruit flavors. Our grapes stood up to Mother Nature to bring you bright whites with tons of flavor and reds of uncompromising complexity.

WINEMAKER NOTES:

The Carignane is a great example of a winemaking approach we take on certain varieties. It was fermented in our traditional manner and allowed to express its inherent characteristics. Only then were decisions made on how to best let the varietal characters develop. After settling and clarification, the wine aged in small American oak barrels; Patience is rewarded with this variety. Its rustic, earthy nature that accompanies the bright aromas and crisp structure is noteworthy.

- TOM MYERS, Winemaker

TASTING NOTES:

APPEARANCE: Dark, vibrant red

AROMA: Raspberry, cherry, cured meat and oak

PALATE: Cranberry, cherry and blackberries, firm acidity with resolved tannins

TECHNICAL NOTES:

VARIETAL: 100% Carignane **VINEYARD SOURCES:** Whale Rock Vineyard

AVA: Paso Robles **HARVEST DATE:** October & November 2022

BOTTLING DATE: September 17, 2024 **HARVEST SUGAR:** 23.0° brix

OAK: French & American **OAK AGE:** 15 Months

ALCOHOL: 12.0% **TA:** 0.61 g. 100ml **pH:** 3.89

