



### **A HISTORIC VINEYARD...**

In 1966, Pat and Duncan Haynes planted their vineyard to Martini Pinot Noir and Wente Chardonnay. In the 52 years that have passed since then, there have been many significant changes in the science and technology of viticulture. However, not every supposed advance results in an improvement quality. These old school, widely spaced, cane pruned vines have found a most perfect balance point as tended by Fernando Delgado since 1970. He prunes each vine individually, according to its strength and potential, choosing which canes to keep and how many canes and shoots that each vine will grow. There is no technological substitute for this level of knowledge and experience coupled with pure love for the vine and its fruit.

### **ABOUT THE VINTAGE...**

Ample rain brought an end to our five-year drought and the 2017 vintage produced the high quality of fruit that we had enjoyed in the prior seasons. It was an unusually wet year with a mild spring that allowed the vigorous vines to flower extensively. Record-breaking heat in the days leading to harvest fully ripened the grapes, developing sugar and flavor, while cool nights ensured wines would retain mouthwatering acidity. Our harvest wrapped up, with wine aging in barrel and safe from smoke damage, long before the October fires visited Napa. Ultimately, we were gifted a smaller vintage than the originally anticipated and we were very happy with the high quality of the grapes. Deliciously juicy, our wines excited our palates months before bottling!

### **ABOUT THE WINE...**

Before the harvest, Ken and Fernando walk these rows together and mark the most flavorful old vines from the original planting. Only the original and healthiest vines are allowed to be included in this limited pick to produce this very special wine. After the careful vine-by-vine selection in the field, classic Ancien small lot winemaking is performed using one gravity-filled fermenter, punched down by hand.

61 cases produced

### **TASTING NOTES...**

Each year of age of the vines brings new complexity, which integrates effortlessly to show characteristic balance, grace, and the most velvety of textures. A lovely bouquet of roses and delicate earth intermix with notes of cocoa, berries, sandalwood, and toasted grains to invite your first sip. The fruit concentrates on the mid-palate, revealing subtle notes of earl grey tea. The elegantly luxurious character of this wine shines bright with acidity layered into a silky texture. It finishes with a light, understated grip, and expands to embrace every corner of the palate.

**ANCIEN WINES • TEL(707)255-3908 • 4047 EAST THIRD AVE NAPA, CA**