

2023 EISELE VINEYARD 'ALTAGRACIA' CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEGROWING INFORMATION

The 2023 growing season stands out as a late and distinctive vintage, shaped by an unusually cool and wet winter. After three consecutive years of drought, these abundant rains and low temperatures brought a much-needed sense of relief, replenishing the soils and restoring water reserves. Prolonged soil saturation and cool temperatures delayed soil warming at Eisele Vineyard, pushing budbreak to mid-April—approximately two weeks later than average. Cover crop competition and cool spring temperatures limited early canopy growth on the alluvial fan, resulting in smaller canopies overall, while on the clay-rich volcanic soils these same conditions moderated vine development in a wet year, preventing excessive vigor and fostering balanced, steady growth throughout the season. The later, well-timed onset of moderate water stress limited berry size, ultimately reducing yields while enhancing concentration. The ripening period followed the same gentle, cool pattern, allowing grapes to stay well hydrated through harvest, and preserving freshness and balance in the fruit.

Ultimately, the estate recorded its latest harvest on record, underscoring the season's slow and steady progression. The young vines of the Altagracia blend (Coyote 2 and Jardin 2) were the first to break the team's long wait, with harvest commencing on October 2nd. After a meticulous and closely monitored ripening season, grape clusters arrived at the winery in excellent condition. The first glimpse of the 2023 vintage's exceptional quality came in the vineyard, where late-season berry tastings revealed remarkable freshness and red fruit character. This impression was confirmed during maceration, as the wine gradually revealed clarity, tension and a lively, expressive character. The wine was aged for 21 months in 78% new oak French barrels and 22% used 12hl foudres.

The Eisele Vineyard grapes are certified 'Organic' by CCOF and 'Biodynamic' by Demeter.

TASTING NOTES

The 2023 Altagracia Cabernet Sauvignon offers a youthful, vibrant, and accessible expression of the terroir from the back of the estate and its younger vines. The initial nose is fresh and ethereal, immediately setting the tone. It is driven by bright red fruit aromas, blackcurrant buds, redcurrant, and fresh sour cherry, followed by gentle, comforting notes of white flowers and vanilla that soften and round the profile. With aeration, more complex spicy nuances emerge; including thyme, clove, and Sichuan pepper. Medium-bodied and precise, the wine is shaped by finely etched, chalky tannins that underscore its freshness. Signature menthol notes from our terroirs carry through the back end, adding lift and persistence.

GRAPE SOURCE

85% Cabernet Sauvignon

9% Cabernet Franc

6% Petit Verdot

1,195 cases made

Release date : February 11, 2026