

# *2012 Cabernet Sauvignon - Five Sisters Blend*

Our Cabernet Sauvignon - Five Sisters is a blend of the “Five Sisters of Bordeaux”: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot, all estate-grown. The grapes were cool fermented in temperature controlled, open topped fermentation tanks and gently punched down by hand. This time-consuming, low-impact processing optimizes fruit extraction and limits harsh tannins. The wine is a blend of 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 2% Merlot. All of the components of this wine were fermented and barrel-aged separately for 18 months in French oak barrels, then combined to create our Five Sisters Blend.

The 2012 vintage is cellar worthy yet approachable take on the classic Bordeaux blend. Lush aromatics of plum and cassis are immediately evident and lead into rich, balanced flavors of black cherry and herbal spice. The expansive mouthfeel is supported by layers of dense tannin and subtle notes of sweet oak that culminate in an extended, velvety finish.

The Bordeaux varieties that are blended into our Five Sisters are grown throughout the estate in the soils and micro-climate that they are most suited for. Our Cabernet Sauvignon is planted in some of the steepest and highest altitude vineyards. The soils are Serpentine Clay which limits growth and vigor thus insuring a balance of fruit quality and ripening. The Petite Verdot and Cabernet Franc are both planted in brown rocky soil outcrops next to the Cabernet where they can develop their classic flavors to add to the blend. The Malbec is in the deeper and richer soils across from the Old Vine Zinfandel vineyard. There it develops those lush aromatics and soft silky tannins that Malbec is widely known for. The Merlot is grown next to the Brown Barn on the north side in black adobe clay. The vines are planted in high density of 1364 vines per acre in order to limit production and thus enhance flavors.

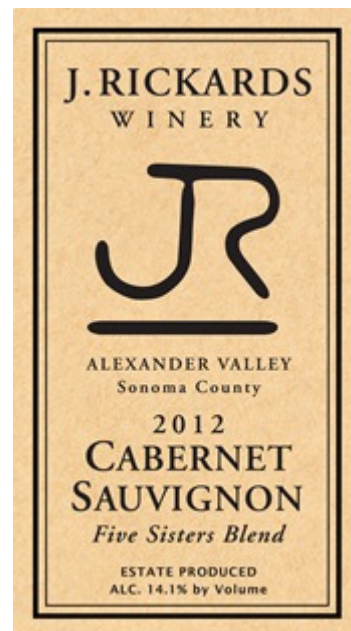
Alc. 14.1

pH 3.77

TA 0.62

Harvest Date: October 10, 2012

Total production: 530 cases



*“Darn Fine Barn Wine”*