

WINEMAKER'S NOTES



BOTTLED:
JANUARY 16, 2024

LANCASTER ESTATE 2021 NICOLE'S PROPRIETARY RED

*Varietals: 89% Cabernet Sauvignon,
11% Merlot*

*Titrateable Acidity: 6.1 g/L
pH: 3.81
Alcohol: 15.0%*

OUR THOUGHTS...

The 2021 Nicole's Proprietary Red is a blend created from the best barrels of our estate's finest vineyard blocks. The final composition consists primarily of Cabernet Sauvignon with a small amount of Merlot. The bouquet is powerful yet refined with floral notes, tobacco, and black pepper. On the palate this wine shows soft, supple tannins with flavors of stone fruit, dark cherry, and plum. Balanced by its acidity, polished tannins and exotic oak, the wine shows a beautiful juxtaposition with contrasting flavors that work well to deliver a long and lingering finish. Nicole's should be decanted when young, and should age for 20+ years.

VINTAGE AND ESTATE NOTES:

The winter of 2020–2021 had minimal rainfall and mild temperatures leading to drought conditions throughout California's North Coast. With a warmer than average winter and spring, budbreak was two weeks ahead of normal. Summer was warm and dry, with a few short heat spikes. The warm weather resulted in beautifully ripened fruit and a fairly early harvest.

Consistent with Lancaster Estate's commitment to making wines of authenticity and place, all of our wines are estate grown, produced and bottled. Native yeasts are used for primary fermentation while secondary malolactic fermentation occurs naturally in barrel.

To preserve the truest expression of our estate, the Lancaster Estate 2021 Nicole's Proprietary Red was gently fined and then bottled unfiltered.

COOPERAGE:

The 2021 was aged 24 months in 100% French oak. We chose barrels from several coopers including Darnajou, Taransaud, Demptos, Ermitage, Saury, Bel Air and Sylvain. 100% of the barrels were new and all were coopered using a combination of medium, medium-plus, medium-long, and heavy toast levels to provide optimal integration and balance.

