

### GROWING SEASON NOTES

The 2022 vintage at Tephra Ridge presented both challenges and opportunities, beginning with a dry winter that led to early bud break and an accelerated growing season. Warm, consistent summer conditions maintained steady vine development until late August heat spikes intensified ripening. Our vineyard team's careful canopy management and selective irrigation proved crucial during these volatile weeks, preserving fruit balance and protecting the grapes' natural acidity while allowing optimal flavor development.

### VINEYARD NOTES

Tephra Ridge Vineyard rises to 1,800 feet on Howell Mountain's steep, volcanic slopes. This historic 35-acre site features thin, gravelly loam and volcanic soils that mirror the finest Bordeaux terroir. The elevation, climate, and native vegetation—fir, madrone, black oak, and ponderosa pine—create ideal conditions for Bordeaux varietals, producing intense fruit with distinctive blackberry, cherry, and currant flavors characteristic of volcanic terroir.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

Hand-harvested Cabernet Sauvignon grapes were destemmed into stainless steel tanks for fermentation. Gentle pumpovers extracted color and tannins, while extended maceration (21 days on skins) refined the tannin structure. After pressing and malolactic fermentation, the wine aged in French oak barrels—30% new—for 22 months total. The final blend was assembled prior to the next vintage and returned to barrel to achieve optimal integration.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Tephra Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon displays concentrated red fruit aromas complemented by distinctive sage and warm spice notes that reflect the mountain terroir. On the palate, the wine shows impressive depth and richness with a dense, structured mouthfeel supported by fine-grained tannins. The finish extends gracefully with lingering spice and fruit complexity, showcasing the wine's aging potential and terroir expression.



**VARIETALS:**

84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, 5% Merlot

**APPELLATION:**

Lake County, California

**VINEYARD:**

Tephra Ridge Vineyard

**ALCOHOL %:**

13.8 %

**AGING:**

24 months barrel aged, 30% new French oak

**T/A:**

5.8 g/l

**pH:**

3.72