

# CLIFF LEDE

## VINEYARDS

### 2010 CLIFF LEDE “SONGBOOK” CABERNET SAUVIGNON, NAPA VALLEY

Songbook represents a collection of vineyard sources that we have been fortunate enough to access to create this beautiful wine. When Cliff Lede was new to Napa Valley in the early 2000s, he was introduced to some of the top growers and consultants in this small community, creating fast friendships and partnerships. We are grateful to work with many grower partners who, like us, take pride in farming to the highest level.

#### Vintage

The 2010 vintage began with a wet winter that kept the soil moist into spring. The vines responded with moderate vigor and healthy canopies. The cool temperatures in the spring continued through harvest resulting in one of Napa Valley’s coolest vintages on record. The below average temperatures slowed berry development and ripening by two to three weeks in most varieties resulting in full ripeness at lower sugar levels. Early season thinning lowered yields and allowed the grapes to achieve optimal ripeness, and careful canopy management protected the fruit from a couple of heat waves in late August and September. Most of the crop was harvested in mid-October during an intense two week period taking advantage of the warmth in October and before the early November rains.

#### Vineyards

The 2010 Songbook was sourced from acclaimed viticulturist David Abreu’s personal properties located in diverse *terroirs* in the St. Helena and Howell Mt. regions of the Napa Valley. These vineyards produce grapes of exceptional character resulting from proprietary clones, extremely low yields and meticulous farming. The result is a winemaker’s dream.

#### Winemaking

Grapes were picked in the darkness of the early morning hours and immediately subjected to rigorous selection by our berry-by-berry hand sorting process. The fruit was gently gravity-delivered to tank by our unique crane system, retaining the integrity of whole berries. Cold soaks lasted four to six days and fermentations were managed by a combination of *délestage*, punchdowns and pumpovers. Extended maceration for four weeks fine-tuned our tannin profiles and allowed us to perfect mouth feel and complexity. This wine underwent twenty-four months of *élevage* in new French oak.

#### Winemaker Notes

The expressive bouquet of the 2010 Songbook features harmonious aromas of wild black cherry, candied black currant, and dark brooding fruits, complemented by high notes of violets and lavender. This exuberant wine has a sweet impression from all of its luscious ripe fruit, with complex notes of mocha, black licorice, and pine, layered on abundant, refined tannins. Silky from start to finish, this wine is a sensuous pleasure.

#### Analysis

Composition:	92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot
Alcohol:	14.9%
Bottled:	November 2012
Release:	March 2014
Production:	258 cases