



MARIETTA CELLARS

Winemaker Scot Bilbro has been at the helm of Marietta since 2012; his father, Chris Bilbro, founded the winery in 1978.



Armé Cabernet Sauvignon 2021

North Coast, California

ESTATE

Starting with only a handful of purchased grapes in 1978, Marietta Cellars has been a standout winery in Sonoma and Mendocino since the very start. Founded by Chris Bilbro, a Sonoma native with winemaking roots dating back three generations, Marietta rose to prominence with its revolutionary Old Vine Red, a California red blend that essentially created the category. The winery has slowly expanded its estate holdings over the past thirty years, evolving into a beacon for high quality, balanced Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, and Rhône variety blends.

WINE

Named after Armé, the husband of Marietta and great-great uncle of Owner/Winemaker Scot Bilbro, this Cabernet Sauvignon conveys a taut freshness and aromatic purity. Stylistically balanced between modern California and Old World, this wine is dense with fresh, dark fruit and tempered with a savory, earthy character. The dry fly on the label is a reference to Chris Bilbro's long history of fishing with his great uncle Armé along the waterways that now adjoin the three estate vineyards.

VINEYARD

The fruit for this wine comes from the Angeli Estate vineyard in Alexander Valley and the McDowell Valley estate. The Cabernet on the Angeli Estate rests on rocky hillside terraces. Foggy mornings along the Russian River burn off to hot afternoons followed by chilly nights. Coupled with deep gravel swales and rocky hills, this vineyard offers the perfect balance between warm days and cool nights. The McDowell Valley estate, situated in a valley surrounded by mountains, benefits from cool nights that preserve acidity and freshness.

Farming: The Armé Cabernet Sauvignon is made from 100% estate fruit, all of which is organically farmed

WINEMAKING

Variety: 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, 4% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot

Aging: 16 months in neutral barrels

Alcohol: 14.6%

VINTAGE

2021's extremely cold and dry winter coupled with a windy spring made for a lighter yielding crop and small berries. These tiny clusters and berries went through the mild growing season with accelerated ripeness and made for a darker more intense wine. Harvest happened a week early across all varietals. Flavors were riper, denser, and showcased more red fruit than other vintages. This was a stellar growing season and the resultant wines are fresh and bright now but are built to age gracefully.

TASTING NOTES

Like an early morning horse ride through chaparral, this Cabernet kicks up waves of floral, mint, and dusty sage on the nose. Elevated, clear, and refreshing, this wine startles and intrigues. Across the palate a broad flood of grippy tannins is eroded by a core of velvet. Fresh and rounded, big yet steely, with hints of Kalamata olive under the primary note of blueberry, this wine has incredible focus with settled length. Delicious now, this will show added layers and depth over the next 5-15 years.