

{ E X P E R I M E N T }

N^o. **N8.3**

2023 Red Experiment N8.3

experiment: *n.* 1) a scientific procedure undertaken to make a discovery, test a hypothesis, or demonstrate a known fact; 2) a course of action tentatively adopted without being sure of the outcome; 3) a series of wines from *OVID Napa Valley* celebrating experimentation in grape growing and winemaking.

AT OVID Napa Valley, experimentation in grape growing and wine-making reflects our ethos – to learn more about the land and what will make the very best wine. We conduct formal experiments on specific topics and participate in a variety of academic and applied studies. And we sometimes try things several ways just to indulge our curiosity and to challenge what we know to be possible in the vineyard and the winery.

Our Experiment wines are a product of this process. Each vintage, we offer small amounts of different wines that we believe will be of special interest to you, allowing you to taste and experience new aspects of our vineyard and winemaking.

2023 RED EXPERIMENT N8.3

“It is impossible to begin to learn that which one thinks one already knows.”

—*Epictetus*

Sometimes you need an external frame of reference to reshape ideas or a new conversation to challenge perceptions.

With this in mind, we decided to purchase a small amount of fruit from a neighboring vineyard. But first, we walked the rows, scrutinized the clone selection and studied the row orientation and trellis setup – learning the why and how of our colleague’s site. Their different approach provides us the opportunity to learn and improve what we do here at the estate.

In 2023 we took the opportunity to explore a site that has a similar aspect to OVID and is planted to Clone 33 of Cabernet Sauvignon – one that we do not have at the estate. Additionally, this site and farmer practice no-till farming, something that we have been transitioning to in an effort to continually improve soil health. The conversations between vines throughout the growing season created our latest Experiment wine.

The 2023 Red Experiment N8.3 opens with notes of perfectly ripe mulberry, blackberry, cola and cassis. Vibrant plum, graham cracker, caramel, wet asphalt and flint aromas uncover layers of depth and dimension. Burnished tannin lingers across the palate with beautiful texture and tension, revealing the power that exists behind this Experiment.

AUSTIN PETERSON *Winemaker*