



# 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 2019

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:* 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, 3% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot

*Fermentation:* A late harvest for the Bordeaux varieties in 2019 was followed by a three-week fermentation

*Aging:* 20 months in neutral barrels

*Alcohol:* 14.8%

### VINTAGE

The 2019 Harvest brought another fantastic year of smooth weather with a slow-paced, even-growing season. Temperatures were a bit cooler than average, leading to picking a week or so later than typical norms. As per the recent Northern California pattern, fire showed up in late October adding to the stress of the season. However, our grapes were picked by then and the only added excitement was power outages and evacuations. We are grateful that our employees and properties stayed safe in 2019 and that the wines show great depth, measured ripeness, and wonderful retained freshness.



"Layered aromas of red and black currants, violet, iron, underbrush and mushrooms. The medium-bodied palate is pleasantly rustic and a touch chewy, with bright acidity, pretty floral perfume and an earth-laced finish." -E.B 7/22

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93 James Suckling

90 Wine Enthusiast