

## 2023 FRIAS SMD

October 10 to November 3, over three picks

The grapes for this wine were hand selected in the vineyard when they were harvested from various blocks at optimum ripeness on October 10 through November 3 over three picks and then hand sorted twice in the winery to make sure only the best reached the fermentation tanks. Once in the tanks, the grapes sat cold for a few days developing color, flavor and aroma before starting to ferment. The tanks were gently punched down and pumped over for 17 to 22 days to extract all the color, aroma and flavor from the grapes carefully, then the juice was drained and skins pressed before being filled into barrels. The wine finished a native malolactic fermentation in the barrels in about two months and was aged for 20 months in small French oak barrels (50% new) and bottled in June 2025.

### WINEMAKER NOTES:

The 2023 SMD offers up currants, cassis and raspberries intermixed with chocolate and a potpourri of baking spices and black olive. Blackberry and cranberry on the palate join with the ultra-fine tannins into a suave wine that carries on with elegance and grace to a rousing finish.

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AVA: SPRING MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

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VARIETAL: 100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

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ALCOHOL: 14.5%

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pH: 3.81

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TA: 5.19

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CASES: 349

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### THE FRIAS STORY:

*In 1977 Manny Frias Sr. purchased 100 acres at the base of the iconic Spring Mountain District in Napa Valley. In 1985, five of those acres were planted, and FRIAS Family Vineyard was born. The first vintage was 1991, and since then, the vineyards have expanded to over 13 acres planted to Cabernet Sauvignon. FRIAS also produces wines from single vineyards in Oakville and Yountville from families with whom they have long-standing relationships. Second-generation brothers Fernando & Manny Frias Jr. are now at the helm, and continue the quest for excellence with their family-owned and artisanal winery. Winemaker Todd Heth has been with the team since 2004 crafting these polished and powerful wines.*

