

## **2014 AMOUREUX**

SONOMA VALLEY

73% MALBEC CLONE 595

17% CABERNET SAUVIGNON CLONE 337

8% MERLOT CLONE 181

2% CABERNET FRANC CLONE 214

Production: 775 Cases • Bottled: August 2016 • 18 Months in Oak

Alc: 14.8% pH: 3.78 TA: 5.4 g/L

## SONOMA VALLEY ESTATE GROWN

We chose the name Amoureux, a French word meaning "lovers," because this Malbec blend reminds us of when we first fell in love. We discovered Malbec while honeymooning in Sonoma; and to this day, it holds a sentimental place in our hearts and delights our palates. Our love affair with Malbec inspired us to plant it on our estate, Justi Creek Vineyards, and to create a unique blend that reflects our relationship. In Amoureux, the beguiling fruit of Malbec is enhanced by Cabernet Sauvignon's gentle tannins, the supple fruit of Merlot, and the piquant bouquet of Cabernet Franc. The wine offers a mélange of flavors and textures. Ripe blueberry, clove and nutmeg are intertwined with notes of vanilla, which come from 18 months of aging in European oak. The impression of ripe fruit continues on the palate, the wine rich and full with a long, velvety finish. It is altogether fun to drink, and we think it is just like us!

## JUSTI CREEK VINEYARDS

Our estate in Sonoma Valley is rich in historical significance, encompassing organically farmed vineyards and an eco-friendly winery. Justi Creek Vineyards, part of the stunning 95-acre ranch on the outskirts of Glen Ellen, is comprised of three adjacent parcels, formerly parts of Rancho Vallejo and Rancho Los Guilicos. Nancy and John Lasseter embarked on an environmentally sensitive upgrading of their property, lovingly restoring the natural habitat and converting the vineyards exclusively to organic farming practices. The pond was revitalized, and beehives and insectaries were established in order to provide homes for beneficial insects. The ecosystem flourishes under the watchful eye of vineyard manager Phil Coturri. The Upper Bench Blocks are seventeen acres of benchland situated above the valley floor, on undulating terrain known locally as the "Glen Ellen Moguls." The fast-draining, cobbly soils of these blocks are ideal for the red Bordeaux varieties Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Malbec; and they yield outstanding fruit with classic varietal characteristics perfectly suited to the Amoureux style: bold flavors, wonderful structure and a velvety mouthfeel.

