

ILSLEY

VINEYARDS
EST. 1954

ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2013 SEIS PRIMAS



Vintage: 2013
Harvest Dates: September 13 to October 3
Appellation: 100% Stags Leap District
Blend: 53% Malbec, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot
Winemaker: Heather Pyle
Bottling Date: June 19, 2015
Production: 168 Cases
Brix: Average 26.2
pH: 3.68
Total Acidity: 6.4 g/L
Alcohol: 14.7%

The 2013 growing season was what we could call ‘normal’, meaning moderate summer temperatures with the occasional heat spike but nothing remarkable. Of course there is nothing ‘normal’ in agriculture since Mother Nature likes to keep us guessing. So, for an added challenge She made 2013 another drought year, the second of 3 in a row. The California wines as a group from 2013 are solid to magnificent and very often well balanced.

Tasting Notes The 2013 Ilsley Vineyards Seis Primas is a inky dark as usual with a beautiful Bing cherry hue; The aromas are fruit forward with bright Santa Rosa plum and cherry completed with allspice and something floral, like heirloom roses. On the palate the wine is very full and soft with an indescribable mixture of red fruit, vanilla and clove. The wine seems to go on forever.....

Vintage Notes 2013 started warm and dry and we were all anticipating an early start to the season. A years worth of rainfall that all came in November and December was followed by dry weather for the rest of winter. Bud break was early and that always makes us nervous for spring time frost, but fortunately warm weather continued though the spring and there were no cold nights. A hot spell around the 4th of July interrupted what was an otherwise pleasant summer of cool nights foggy mornings and warm afternoons, perfect ripening conditions for Cabernet and Malbec. Nearly ideal weather continued into fall allowing fruit to reach full maturity and complexity. Harvest began with the Malbec in early September and finished with the Cabernet around October 10th.

Seis Primas In 1996, Ed Ilsley planted a small block of Malbec near the original 20 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon which had been planted on the family estate in the early 1960s. As the vineyards and their family evolved, Ed wanted to honor his granddaughters with a blend of the well established Cabernet and the newer Malbec. Working with the Ilsley Vineyards winemaker, they proceeded to create a blend worthy of the fourth generation of their wine growing family. This delicious wine is called Seis Primas, the six girl cousins. It celebrates Kimberly, Julia, Alyssa, Analise, Kate and Olivia, the future of Ilsley Vineyards. Seis Primas is a blend from the six estate vineyard blocks named for each of the six cousins.



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