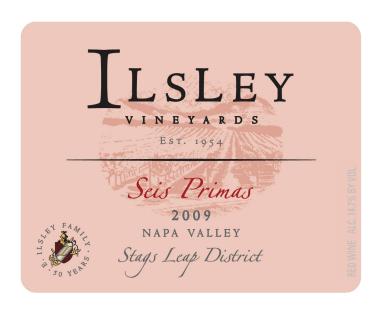


## ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2009 SEIS PRIMAS



Vintage: 2009

**Appellation:** 100% Stags Leap District **Blend:** 35% Malbec, 34% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Sauvignon,

9% Sangiovese

Winemaker: Heather Pyle

Harvest Dates: September 15 to

October 7, 2009

Bottling Date: August 11, 2011

**Production:** 75 Cases 72 cases of 750ml and 3 cases of 1.5L bottles

**Brix:** Average 25.6

**ph:** 3.67

Total Acidity: 6.36 Alcohol: 14.98%

## **Tasting Notes**

Seis Primas allows us to showcase many or all of the grape varieties grown with great care on the Ilsley ranch. Led by Malbec, this wine offers the intensely focused fruit of the Stag's Leap district first and foremost, a combination of bing cherry and ripe raspberry. These aromas are joined by cinnamon, clove, vanilla and a hint of leather. On the pallet the wine is bright with red fruit upon entry. It mellows on the mid palate and lingers with mouth filling tannins and enough acidity for long aging and a range of food pairings.

## Vintage Notes

2009 was our third consecutive season of below average rainfall. Fortunately there was enough late winter rains to begin the year with sufficient soil moisture so we saw nice early season growth. Spring was mild, if a bit on the cool side, and provided ideal bloom time weather. A long cool Sumer had just enough warm spells to fully ripen the fruit before the late October rains. As we often see, the lighter than average crop showed concentration and complexity as well as the silky Stags Leap tannins we expect from our hillside vineyards.

## 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. He believed that this varietal would be well suited to the Stags Leap property. 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. Ernie, David and Janice liked their father's idea and they moved forward with it. 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.

We are proud of our vineyards and the fruit that they bear.

