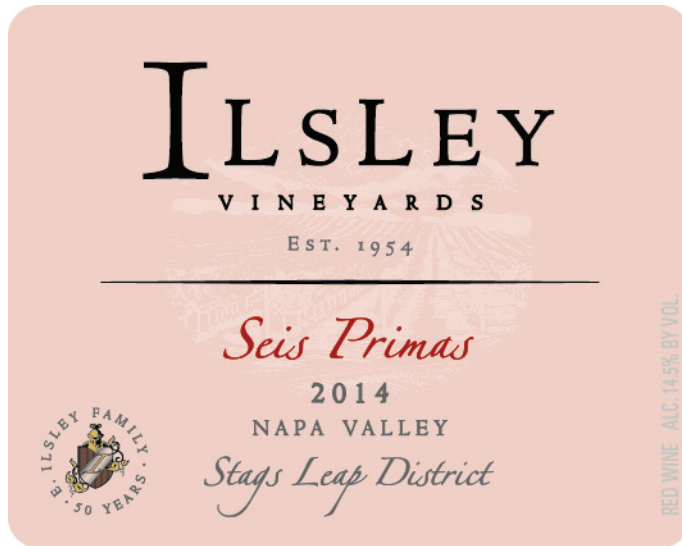


ILSLEY

VINEYARDS
EST. 1954

ILSLEY VINEYARDS TASTING NOTES 2014 SEIS PRIMAS



Vintage: 2014
Harvest Dates: September 8 to
October 1, 2014
Appellation: 100% Stags Leap District
Blend: 55% Malbec,
32% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot
Winemaker: Heather Pyle
Bottling Date: July 8, 2016
Production: 154 Cases
Brix: Average 25.9
pH: 3.64
Total Acidity: 6.2 g/L
Alcohol: 14.7%

As I write this, we know that 2014 was the last drought year in California before we got all the relief we needed (and more in some places). The vines, like a lot of the local trees had had just about enough of dry winters and even drier summers. The crop was correspondingly small and concentrated. The 2014 Seis Primas, made up of more than half Malbec, is smooth and yet concentrated with a great Stag's Leap 'bright fruit' personality.

Tasting Notes The 2014 Ilsley Vineyards Seis Primas is a very dark garnet, suggesting richness and youth. The aromas leap forward with Bing cherry and ripe raspberry with allspice and a faint touch of smoke from the toasted oak. In the mouth the wine is full, broad and soft on entry with a mixture of red fruit, spice and a touch of leather. The finish has a firm structure and a touch of acidity to keep it food friendly.

Vintage Notes Following this past winter's record rainfall it's hard to remember that the 2014 vintage was smack in the middle of the historic California drought. Fortunately, here in the Napa Valley, February and March brought a period of heavy rain, exactly when the vines needed it most, just prior to bud break. The much needed late winter rains were followed by a rather mild spring that allowed the vines to develop average canopies. Warm summer days and cool nights provided near perfect ripening conditions. Harvest began the first week of September, about a week earlier than normal. The effects of the drought were barely noticeable, the crop load was above average and the Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon were in pristine condition. Following 2012 and 2013, the 2014 vintage again proved how fortunate we are to make wine in Stags Leap.

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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