A NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON UNLIKE ANY OTHER PRODUCED IN THE WORLD. THE WINE IS BEST DESCRIBED AS A SOLERA STYLE BLEND OF EVERY ZD RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON EVER PRODUCED.

## ABACUS

ZD WINES

ANNIVERSA

NAPA VALLEY

## WHY ABACUS

Abacus, ZD Wines' legendary Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, is a multi-vintage blend that artfully expresses the depth and complexity of a well-aged wine infused with a touch of forward fruit and intensity of a younger wine. It is defined by ZD Wines Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon. Abacus has maintained its iconic status as one of the most unique, complex, and innovative wines produced today.

The idea for Abacus was born late one evening over 20 years ago on a family retreat while siblings Robert and Brett deLeuze were enjoying older vintages of ZD Cabernet Sauvignon. They had recognized early on at ZD that wines blended from several lots most often surpassed the quality of the individual lots. It was here that they came to the idea of combining multiple vintages to create an ultimate level of complexity using a solera-style blending technique with ZD's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon.

ZD's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon has been produced every year since 1992. Each vintage has been 100% Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon blended from the finest lots of the vintage. The wine is aged for three years in the barrel which allows access to the young reserve wines as a blending component to Abacus. Hence, there is always a component of young, fruit forward wine available to infuse into the ever-developing Abacus solera.

The First Bottling of Abacus was released in 1999. It was a blend of seven vintages from 1992-1998 of the Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon. Only 15% of the solera was bottled for the first release and the remaining 85% was returned to barrel for another year of aging. This technique of blending a portion of the younger Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon into the solera each year has resulted in a wine of perpetually increasing complexity.

The current milestone Abacus XX (Twentieth Bottling) is a masterful blend of 26 vintages of ZD's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon including the 1992 through 2017 vintages. Following a tradition of bottling less than 15% of the solera each year ensures that this wine will live on in ZD's cellar for generations to come.

ABACUS, TWENTIETH BOTTLING - 26 VINTAGES RELEASE DATE OCTOBER 1, 2018

## How to Read an Abacus

The Abacus, an ancient counting device, was chosen as this wine's namesake. The wine is a "solera style" multiple vintage blend of every ZD Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon ever produced. The medallion attached to each bottle depicts an abacus that identifies the first and last vintages in the wine.

The traditional abacus is divided into two parts, with five beads in the lower section and two in the upper section. Each lower bead is worth one unit, and each upper bead is worth five units. The beads are only counted when they are pushed against the crossbar dividing the abacus into its two sections. To read the abacus, which depicts the first and last vintages in the Twentieth Bottling of ZD's Abacus (1992-2017), add the value of the beads above the crossbar to the value below for each row. There is a zero row separating the two dates.

