



## *Fratelli Perata Winery*

### **1999 TRE SORELLE, ESTATE**

The Tre Sorelle of Fratelli Perata are Julie, Catherine and Joanne. The wine of the same name contains 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, Riserva, 29% Merlot, and 13% Cabernet Franc.

Our winery is a family business, a lifestyle more than a number crunching manufacturing plant. The wine begins with a living vine giving us its fruit. We try to treat that fruit with respect and bring out the best in it. Our daughters were born here just after the vines were planted and just as the winery started. They have seen the whole process of grapes into wine into the hands of very nice customers and friends. They have participated in almost all aspects of vineyard work and winemaking. They see the value in hard work, and they meet a lot a very nice people.

To honor their participation in the winery, our Bordeaux blend is named Tre Sorelle, translated as "Three Sisters." Each wine brings to the blend its own attributes, similar but different. The Cabernet Sauvignon is structure, cherry, and vanilla with a long finish. The Merlot is mocha and brasher American tannins over cherry. The Cabernet Franc is earth, smoke, and smooth tannins over dark cherry.

The 1999 vintage is a particularly appealing one. Like the Riserva, it is a big mouth-filling wine. It is built to age, but is appealing right now, especially with Italian fontina cheese and also grilled mushrooms. The wine and cheese melt together in your mouth. The mushrooms bring out the earthy goodness of the wine.

Do not be afraid to cellar this wine. This is a big vintage, on the scale of 1990, 1992, 1993, 1997, 2001, and 2003. When young, the different wines strike the palate from different angles. With age, the different elements will all blend into a long, complex wine, in unison.

Please enjoy this wine with friends and family, as we celebrate the continuing participation of our daughters in the operation of the winery. Our children are our gifts to ourselves. Our wines are our family's offerings to your family.