

2016

Dry Creek Valley

ZINFANDEL

## **WINEMAKER'S NOTES**

The fruit for this release comes from two well-established vineyards right near our winery. Pauline's Vineyard is directly across the street and Timber Crest Farms is right outside our winery door. They both represent the heart of Dry Creek Valley and have done so for many, many years. In years when the vineyards have different flavor profiles, we produce two vineyard designates. But in years when the flavors are very similar we blend them together and make the Dry Creek Valley blend.

The Pauline's Vineyard is an extension of the relationship we have with Randy Peters of the Peters Vineyard. Owned by Randy's Dad and named for his mother, Randy manages this vineyard with the same love and skill as he does the Peters Vineyard. Timber Crest Farms is owned by the Waltenspiels, the former producers of Timber Crest Farms dried fruit and is also managed by Randy Peters.

We use many of the same techniques with our Zinfandel as with our Pinot Noir. We cold-soak the grapes for three days and once the fermentation begins we hand punch the grapes in open-top fermenters, a method not commonly used with Zinfandel. The wine is then aged for 15 months in Francois Frères oak barrels. We always keep the grapes separate throughout the process so we can make blending decisions after the grapes have evolved independently. Because we make our Zinfandel using the same techniques as our Pinot Noir, our Zin really appeals to the Pinot lover.

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## **TASTING NOTES**

This highly acclaimed 2016 vintage is complex and completely delicious. Garnet in color with juicy, deep red and blue fruit on the nose, along with secondary aromas of purple flowers and spice appearing as the wine opens. Juicy and pure flavors of dark cherry, blackberry and fresh plum mingle with the seductive notes of vanilla and caramel on the finish. This is one complex Zinfandel with perfect depth, balance and acidity. A great Zin to age if some of it makes it to your cellar.

## **WINE PROFILE**

Varietal: 100% Zinfandel

**Appellation**: Dry Creek Valley

Harvest Dates: September 10, 2016

**Alcohol:** 15.0%

**pH**: 3.65

**RS:** Dry

Cooperage: 15 Months in

Francois Frères French oak, 100% 3 year old

**Bottled:** February 3, 2017

**Production:** 630 cases

## **Papapietro Perry Winery**

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