

2017

Dry Greek 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. BenR Capapietro

## **TASTING NOTES**

We don't make much of it, but we love our Zinfandel. And apparently so do a lot of people. Our 2017 vintage Dry Creek Zin is another complex beauty. Our old vines make a compelling and complex Zinfandel. This deep garnet wine has a brooding deep red and purple fruit nose with hints of pepper and bramble. On the palate there are dark cherry and blackberry fruit flavors tightly knit with earth and pepper notes. As the wine opens there's a pleasant alluring element that adds yet another layer of flavor. Neutral barrels yielded some warm toasty oak that makes its way into the party on this one. Nice acidity keeps this wine very drinkable on its own or with grilled meat. Pour it for your fancy friends who say they don't like Zin, stand back and watch their reaction with a knowing smile on your face. It's funny.

## **WINE PROFILE**

Varietal: 100% Zinfandel

Appellation: Dry Creek Valley

**Harvest Dates:** September 14, 2017

14.9% Alcohol:

pH: 3.75

RS: Dry

TA: 6.2 g/L

15 Months in Cooperage:

Francois Frères French oak, 100% 3 year old

**Bottled:** February 5, 2018

**Production:** 571 cases

## **Papapietro Perry Winery**

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