

# 2018 PETITE SIRAH

MENDOCINO COUNTY

### Background

Mendocino County is the largest producer of Petite Sirah in the north coast of California. Our Petite Sirah comes from a combination of old vine vineyards and new high-tech vineyards scattered throughout the benchlands and hillsides of Mendocino County.

### Vineyards

Our Petite Sirah comes from three different vineyards scattered throughout Mendocino County, one of which is over 50 years old and sits on a rocky benchland overlooking the Russian River. The other two sit close to the Russian River, with grey sandy loam soils and great sun exposure. These great vineyard conditions show in the fruit and always produce excellent wine.

# Winemaking

The grapes for this wine were hand harvested from October 19<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> and were crushed into open top fermentors and allowed to cold soak for 3 days before the start of fermentation. After a long, slow fermentation, the wine was aged for 36 months in 20% new French Burgundy, American, and Eastern European oak, softening the tannins and adding length and complexity to the wine.

# Winemaker Comments

This wine offers deep aromas and delicious flavors of ripe blackberries, violets, chocolate, toasty vanilla, tar and spice. Untypical of many of today's Petite Sarah's, this wine is round, smooth and displays rich tannins that leads to long, lingering finish.



#### Winemaking Data

**Harvest** Date: October 19<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>

Fermentation & Aging Fermentation: 3 days of cold soak, pumped over and punched down twice a day for 11-14 days in stainless open top fermentors Aging: 36 months in French, American, EU Burgundy barrels (20% new French) Wine Blend: 80% Petite Sirah, 12% Carignane, 8% Zinfandel Alcohol: 14.7% Total Acidity: 7.2 g/L pH: 3.40 Residual Sugar: 0.7 g/L

**Food Pairing**: Roasted meats such as lamb and beef or hearty venison stew bring out the true flavors of this wine.

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