



# 2016

## The Crossing

red wine blend

### winemaker notes

VARIETY: 92% grenache, 6% syrah, 2% zinfandel

APPELLATION: Sonoma County (Dry Creek Valley and Russian River Valley)

DEGREES BRIX AT HARVEST: 26.6 to 27.8

P.H: 3.85

ALCOHOL: 14.7%

CELLAR RECOMMENDATION: Ageworthy: decant if enjoying soon or cellar for additional time. Enjoy this wine through 2028.

**VINIFICATION NOTES:** The 2016 season provided a wonderful year for growing exceptional quality fruit. 79% of the blend comes from Big River Ranch with the other 21% coming from our Lily Hill Estate. The Big River Ranch grenache and syrah was hand picked on September 30th, with the grenache being fermented in an open-top tank, with twice-daily punchdowns during fermentation. The Lily Hill Estate grenache was picked on October 6th and began fermentation using native yeasts, with twice-daily pumpovers. The wine was aged for 19 months in 20% new oak (85% French, 10% Hungarian and 5% American).

**VINEYARD NOTES:** Combining fruit from Big River Ranch in the Alexander Valley and our Lily Hill Estate in Dry Creek Valley, The Crossing is a beautifully rich and textured red wine that showcases the character and complexity of both sites in a seamless blend. With an alluring structure, this exciting Rhone blend combines Old World sophistication with vibrant layers of New World fruit.

**SENSORY NOTES:** This wine displays gorgeous layers of bright cherry, wild strawberry and pomegranate that rise from the glass gaining depth and nuance as the wine opens up. The lush red fruit flavors continue on the palate, where they are underscored by a juicy mouthfeel and additional flavors of baking spices and vanilla that linger on the long, supple finish.

#### VINEYARD DETAILS:

CLONE: Grenache Tablas clones A, C, and Alban; Syrah Noir clone

SOIL TYPE: Various

ELEVATION: 200 - 600 feet

YIELD PER ACRE: 2.5 - 3.0 tons

ROOTSTOCK: Various

VINE SPACING: 5 x 8

TRELLISING STYLE: Head trained, cordon

IRRIGATION: Minimal Drip

YEAR PLANTED: Early 1900's - 2005

CASES PRODUCED: 215 cases

**Bella**  
VINEYARDS & WINE CAVES