

2016

BELLE CANYON

zinfandel

winemaker notes

VARIETY: 84% zinfandel, 11% petite sirah, 5% petit verdot
APPELLATION: Dry Creek Valley
DEGREES BRIX AT HARVEST: 25.1 to 27.7
pH: 3.85
ALCOHOL: 14.9%
CELLAR RECOMMENDATION: Enjoy this wine through 2025.

VINIFICATION NOTES: The 2016 growing season offered exceptional growing conditions, yielding great color and depth of flavor. From September 10th through October 6th, we hand-harvested eight different blocks at Belle Canyon. The fruit was carefully sorted and destemmed and received two pump-overs daily during fermentation, with the petite sirah and petit verdot fermented separately. After fermentation, the wine was barreled-down into a combination of 85% French, 10% Hungarian and 5% American oak barrels for 18 months, with 20% new oak overall.

VINEYARD NOTES: This wine comes from a vineyard on the eastern edge of Dry Creek Valley. Planted in the early 90s, the site experiences intense daytime summer heat, but due to its elevation, it cools down rapidly at night, preserving acid and freshness in the fruit. A great deal of handwork is performed to achieve the proper ripeness at harvest. Clusters are thinned up to five times before harvest to allow the remaining fruit to fully ripen.

SENSORY NOTES: Lovely aromas of bright red fruit, red licorice, strawberry and cherry leap from the glass. On the palate, deep, yet lively, flavors of fig, cassis and black current emerge, supported by supple tannins that carry the wine to a lingering finish.

VINEYARD DETAILS:

CLONE:	Various	SOIL TYPE:	Various	ELEVATION:	220 - 600 feet
VINE SPACING:	5x8 and 8x8	YIELD PER ACRE:	2.5 - 3.5 tons	ROOTSTOCK:	St. George, 110-14
YEAR PLANTED:	Various	TRELLISING STYLE:	VSP and head-trained	IRRIGATION:	Drip

CASES PRODUCED: 527 cases

Bella
VINEYARDS & WINE CAVES