

2018

Florence Vineyard

zinfandel

winemaker notes

VARIETY: 97% zinfandel (Florence Vineyard)
3% syrah (Lily Hill)

APPELLATION: Dry Creek Valley

DEGREES BRIX AT HARVEST: 26.4

ALCOHOL: 14.7%

CELLAR RECOMMENDATION: Enjoy this wine through 2030

VINIFICATION NOTES: Florence vineyard fruit was picked in the cool early morning of September 15th. After being sorted and destemmed the grapes were placed in closed-top stainless steel tanks and fermented using Clos yeast strains for 21 days on the skins, with twice-daily pumpovers. Florence fruit was fermented at a cooler temperature to retain its subtle floral aromatics and delicate structure. After fermentation, Florence zinfandel was placed in 100% French oak, 15% being new barrels, for 16 months before being bottled in February 2020.

VINEYARD NOTES: Located a quarter-mile from our Lily Hill Estate Vineyard, the Florence Vineyard is influenced by the bordering Peña Creek, giving the soil a well-draining, rocky quality unique to this site. The vines were cultivated from cuttings of the St. Peter's Church clone taken from Jack Florence's famous Rockpile Ranch, which produce extremely small berries that deliver intense flavors. To add to the depth and nuance of this wine, we also included 3% syrah from Lily Hill Vineyard.

SENSORY NOTES: Because the 2018 vintage wines have been slow to open, Florence Vineyard zinfandel was cellared for an additional 15 months after being bottled and efforts have been greatly rewarded. This wine wows with poise and elegance. Floral and seductive, it delivers quiet strength and embodies the bright raspberry fruits Dry Creek Valley is known for. Supple fruit meets violets and vanilla with soft, savory tannins. This is a continually-evolving wine that will cellar wonderfully.

VINEYARD DETAILS:

CLONE:	St. Peter's Church	SOIL TYPE:	Clay, heavy loam, sand	ELEVATION:	220-1,250 feet
VINE SPACING:	6x8	YIELD PER ACRE:	1.5 to 2.5 tons	ROOTSTOCK:	St. George
YEAR PLANTED:	1999	TRELLISING STYLE:	VSP	IRRIGATION:	Minimal drip

CASES PRODUCED: 312 cases produced.

Bella
VINEYARDS & WINE CAVES