

2016 SAILORS' CUVÉE – DRY CREEK VALLEY



HISTORY

Winemaking and sailing have a lot in common. Like winemaking, sailing is fun, adventuresome and romantic. Like sailing, the art of winemaking demands the skill, discipline and determination of a group of people committed to the same goal. With this exquisite wine, the Sailors' Cuvée exemplifies our commitment to producing the finest wine from the Dry Creek Valley. Aged in oak barrels for 20 months, this memorable wine is supple, elegant and stylish – much like the handsome silkscreened bottle commemorating our love of the high seas.

GROWING SEASON

The 2016 harvest began with a relatively even growing season after welcome winter rains helped to alleviate the drought conditions. The entire ripening season enjoyed cooler than average daytime highs and cold nights – perfect for developing complex aromas and flavors. Harvest arrived earlier than usual, with a slightly smaller yield of exceptional quality fruit. September brought morning cloud cover and beautiful days with temperatures cruising along in the mid-80s, which led to delicious ripe flavors with lower sugars and higher acidity.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

This distinctive wine displays wonderful aromatics of black cherry, plum and cinnamon. Additional airing reveals nutmeg, boysenberry syrup and cocoa powder with hints of white pepper and fine leather. The wine is silky and lush with flavors of black currant, blackberry preserve and dark chocolate. The palate is rich, big-bodied and complex with excellent tannin and structure. The finish lingers on with superb balance and depth and reflects the *terroir* beautifully.

RELEASE DATE	May 2020
BLEND	58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Cabernet Franc, 9% Malbec, 1% Petit Verdot
APPELLATION	Dry Creek Valley
HARVEST DATES	September 22 - October 7, 2016
ALCOHOL	14.4%
FERMENTATION	12 - 16 days in fermenters at 82 - 88°F; pumped over twice daily.
BARREL AGING	20 months in French and Hungarian oak; 34% new oak
BRIX	Average 26.5
PH	3.59
TA	6.3g/L
SOILS	Sand and clay loam
VINE AGE	6 to 22 years
YIELDS	1 - 2 tons per acre

