

2018 ESTATE PETITE SIRAH – SPENCER’S HILL VINEYARD – DRY CREEK VALLEY



HISTORY

The Petite Sirah varietal has traditionally played an important role in producing our world-class Zinfandel wines. We blend Petite Sirah into several of our Zinfandel bottlings to give the wine a solid backbone with fleshy tannins and excellent acidity. In certain vintages, we decide to bottle a small amount of Petite Sirah to more fully express this incredible variety. This wine was produced from our iconic DCV9 estate vineyard in the Lytton Springs district of the Dry Creek Valley.

GROWING SEASON

Following a long growing season characterized by cooler than normal temperatures throughout the spring and summer, the 2018 harvest started 5–8 days later than the past several years. The milder temperatures afforded the luxury of a longer hang time for the grapes, allowing them to fully mature while retaining a high level of acidity. Overall, the harvest was plentiful with some vineyards producing higher than average quantities. The season ended with the ideal combination of warm days and cooler nights which enabled the high quality of grapes to thrive while developing complexity and nuance.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

From the first moments of airing, this Petite Sirah exudes aromas of blackberry, black cherry, and black currant with nuances of nutmeg, marzipan, and fine leather. The palate is defined by flavors of black cherry, toasted mocha, and black pepper. The tannins are firm, but well integrated with a long and lingering finish. Notes of plum and dark chocolate emerge along with a deep and rich mouthfeel filled with supple tannins and a smooth texture.

RELEASE DATE	February 2021
BLEND	100% Petite Sirah
APPELLATION	Dry Creek Valley
HARVEST DATES	September 29, 2018
ALCOHOL	13.9%
FERMENTATION	Stainless steel fermented at 82–88°F for 12 days on skins; pumped over twice daily.
BARREL AGING	16 months French and American oak; 37% new oak
BRIX	Average 23.2
PH	3.38
TA	6.8g/L
SOILS	Rolling hills with gravelly loam soil
VINE AGE	18 years
YIELDS	3–4 tons per acre

