

Kuleto

ESTATE

NOTE *from* THE WINEMAKER

Harvest is in full swing here at Kuleto Estate. As I write this letter, we have just finished picking our estate fruit and are very excited about the quality from this cooler year. This year began with extremely dry conditions with 80 degree temperatures in February that encouraged early bud break, but March saved us with a healthy amount of rainfall. The next few months were cool allowing for longer hang time that resulted in wonderfully concentrated fruit. As we head into the winter months, things will begin to slow down from the hustle and bustle of harvest. It's bitter-sweet as the daily rhythm that develops over the course of 6-8 weeks during harvest is a joy to be part of.



Your wines from this shipment are perfect to pair with friends, family and cozy, winter meals as we move into the holidays. Perhaps no other variety expresses the special nature of our estate like Cabernet Franc, and vintage 2015 produced a classic example of what it can do here. Its impressive tannin-acid structure makes it a versatile pairing, but I prefer it with a roast lamb for your holiday dinner.

The 2016 Pinot Noir is made up of three clones and three vineyard selections that are planted in two parcels between 1,000 and 1,200 feet. Temperatures in these locations are frequently 15 degrees cooler than the surrounding ridge-tops and they are protected from the late afternoon sun and breezes. As a result, the Pinot Noir here at the estate ripens on the same schedule as the Carneros appellation – a surprise given our location within the Napa Valley. The mouth of this Pinot is very powerful, showing the full effect of the Pommard clone portion of the blend. Its bright acidity and red fruit flavors make it pair wonderfully with grilled salmon or roast chicken.

Finally, our 2013 Danielli is composed of the best barrels of red varieties on the property. Blending at Kuleto takes place at all stages of the process – at harvest with co-fermentation of different varieties, at racking to build strength and complexity into various pieces of a potential blend, and finally with barrel selection as we approach bottling. The result is a full, rich and complex blend that will be the star with a full-bodied stew or a gamy venison.

I hope you all find the time to enjoy the holiday season along with these wines. I look forward to sharing our new wines with you on your next visit.

Sincerely,
John Clews, Winemaker

KULETO 2015 CABERNET FRANC

NAPA VALLEY

At Kuleto Estate, we prize our Cabernet Franc for its ability to retain its varietal character no matter the vintage. This 2015 Cabernet Franc strikes the perfect balance between fruit and sweet herb. The steam-bent French oak barrels that we selected support this balance by providing structure without being overwhelming. Its kirsch and marjoram flower aromas meld with fine, dusty tannins to make this a classic and age worthy wine!

Composition: 80% Cabernet Franc, 20% Merlot
Aging: 18 months in French oak, 30% new
Pricing: Retail: \$65 | Club: \$52 | Reorder: \$45.50



KULETO 2016 PINOT NOIR

NAPA VALLEY

Over the years, we've learned to treat our Pinot Noir like we think one should. That is, to not pick it too ripe despite the warmer growing conditions, and to try to capture the best aroma we can without worrying about color. Our 2016 is a beautiful deep ruby in color. It pumps out classic Pinot Noir aromas of ripe red plums, dried orange rind, and something herbal and sweet like fennel or tarragon. The mouth is firm and juicy and therefore the perfect foil to just about anything you love to eat.

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Aging: 18 months in French oak, 20% new
Pricing: Retail: \$50 | Club: \$40 | Reorder: \$35



KULETO 2013 DANIELLI

NAPA VALLEY

The goal for our Danielli is to make the most flavorful and supple wine possible. The 2013 Danielli is a very deep red color. The aroma is a heady mix of ultra-ripe black plums, black currants, black and red licorice and bay leaves. The palate is full and firm for a mouth-coating finish. It has a sweetness that makes it immediately appealing, yet the overall structure will allow it to age for years... That is, if you are able to stay away from it for that long!

Composition: 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, 4% Syrah, 1% Malbec
Aging: 30 months in French oak, 50% new
Pricing: Retail: \$100 | Club: \$80 | Reorder: \$70



Reorder offer expires December 17, 2018

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