



2015 ZINFANDEL

NAPA VALLEY

Kuleto is one of the most complex and diverse wine producing properties in the world. Located in the volcanic mountains of eastern Napa our estate features 761 total acres and 82.9 acres of vines perched along ridges and clinging to steep hillsides. Our soils, exposures, elevation changes and sub-climates are so complex that we've delineated our property into more than 100 micro-blocks. Each of these tiny plots is treated as an individual vineyard with varieties, clones, rootstocks, density, trellising and farming methods tailored specifically to the site.

For winemaker John Clews, there is a mutual understanding that all but a small percentage of the winemaker's work is done in the vineyard. Keeping the vineyard's serpentine twists and exposures in mind, the best-suited varietals for each block have been selected. Working with the land, not against it, the individually terraced lots are not oriented to one central direction, but instead are planted to maximize the benefits of their natural location.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

We in the Napa Valley have suffered an embarrassment of riches in terms of having a string of exceptional vintages in recent years. Starting in 2012 and continuing through 2015, each has provided near ideal conditions for ripening fruit perfectly.

With our Estate Zinfandel, we're never trying to swing for the fences to create an over-ripe Port-like wine. We produce other varieties on the property that can satisfy anyone in need of wines of that flavor profile and stature. Rather, we prize Zinfandel for its big fruit character, crazy spiciness, and juicy acidity. This we capture by not letting the fruit get too ripe, by picking it hot and soaking it warm overnight, and by employing a very long cool fermentation. The essence of the variety and vintage is further preserved by aging it without racking in larger 500L barrels, or puncheons.

This 2015 Zinfandel exudes aromas of pine nut, sweet corn, chocolate covered cherry and black spice. The palate is soft yet structured with flavors of red fruits, black pepper, and cured meat. The flavor and texture taper off slowly on the finish. There is a bit of alcohol in this quaffable beauty, so we recommend serving it at about 65-68-degrees for maximum pleasure.

TECHNICAL DATA

Varietal Composition 100% Zinfandel

Vineyard Kuleto Estate | Alcohol 15.3%

Aging 14 months in 20% new Hungarian Oak 500L puncheons

pH 3.77 | TA 6.2 g/l

Cases Produced 247 (12 x 750 ml)