



## 2015 Small Lot Collection Napa Valley Syrah



### About the Vintage

The unseasonably warm temperatures in the early growing season in the Napa Valley in 2015 resulted in early bud break and bloom. Colder temperatures later in the season caused uneven fruit set and resulted in a smaller crop than previous average yields. Winemakers and vineyard crews worked diligently to pick and sort the best berries. Harvest began as early as July 22<sup>nd</sup>, one of the earliest harvests recorded and concluded by mid-October. While drought was still a concern for most of California, Napa Valley received 75% of normal rainfall for the water year.

### Conversations With The Winemaker

Our Small Lot Collection Syrah grapes are of the “Alban” selection which was originally brought from the Cote Rotie in Rhone. From a small vineyard in the eastern part of the valley known as Conn Valley, the soils are mostly clay and rock which is excellent for Syrah since it likes to grow large leaves and berries. This Syrah is blended with a small amount of Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec to provide added richness and backbone resulting in perfectly structure wine. The grapes an extended maceration with a total of 32 days on the skins. This Syrah is 100% barrel-aged for 18 months in French oak barrels.

### Wine Profile

The 2015 Small Lot Napa Valley Syrah is concentrated and supple opening with alluring aromas of Mission fig jam, sweet plummy and a touch of candied violet. A rich and dense mid-palate showcases flavors of vanilla and hazelnut skin with fruit compote aromatics.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

**Appellation:** Napa Valley

**Varietal:** 89% Syrah, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Malbec

**Alcohol:** 15% by vol.

**pH:** 3.84

**TA:** 5.7 g/L

**Fermentation:** 18 months in French oak, 63% new

**Case Production:** 140 cases