

CELEBRATING EIGHT DECADES OF FAMILY WINEGROWING

HENDRY VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY

2017 ZINFANDEL BLOCK 28

Hendry Block 28 is located on bench lands west of the town of Napa. This 4.17-acre block is 160 feet above sea level and has thin, stony soils referred to as "Boomer Series." Morning fog and strong afternoon breezes from San Pablo Bay moderate the maritime climate. The vines were planted in 1998 using St. George roots and grafted with budwood selected from an old-vine Zinfandel vineyard on Mt. Veeder called the Brandlin Ranch. The vines are spaced 6.9' x 5', cordon-trained and spur-pruned. A vertical trellis system supports the cordon and the canopy.

In the early years of Hendry's winemaking endeavors, George farmed the vines on Brandlin Ranch in exchange for the fruit. The old-vine Zinfandel there was of mysterious lineage, and produced complex, intense, spicy fruit. When the vineyard was sold, George was able to obtain budwood from those vines to graft onto rootstock in Block 28 and 23.

In 2017, bud break in Block 28 occurred April 4th. Bloom was May 23rd. Harvest was September 9th, with a yield of 3.27 tons per acre. Bloom-to-harvest period was 109 days. The alcoholic fermentation was completed in approximately one week in closed fermentation tanks. The wine was then pressed and put into barrels for malolactic fermentation. Aging was fifteen months in French oak barrels, approximately 65% of which were new.

Color: ruby. Initial aromas of plummy, jammy fruit. Opens up with perfumed aromas of berries, spice, stem, floral and cedar. Medium-bodied. Pleasant, smooth, round and fruity on the palate. Moderate tannins lend a bittersweet/baking chocolate note to the finish. A medium-weight, fruit-driven classic Zinfandel with enough weight and structure for grilled meats, such as flank or skirt steak, braised lamb, osso buco, pastas with meaty sauces, even eggplant Parmesan. This wine will pair as well with summer's barbecues as it will with fall and winter's casseroles and hearty bakes.

Alcohol is 15.0%. 588 cases produced TA: 6.0 VA: .61