

# 2015 Papera Vineyard Zinfandel

### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The 2015 Papera Zinfandel has it all! At first nosing, aromas of boysenberry, blueberry, black cherry, and lavender seem to jump from the glass. With aeration and further study, notes of anise, chocolate mint, saddle leather, potpourri, and Tellicherry peppercorn emerge. The palate is focused with a refreshing spine of acidity that gives the wine length and vivacity. Flavors of plum and berries round out the framework while being supported by hints of star anise and dried citrus peel. Another outstanding wine from this stalwart, old vine site.

## THE VINEYARD

Papera is an old vine Zinfandel vineyard, located on the eastern side of the Laguna de Santa Rosa in the Russian River Valley appellation. Planted in 1934, the vines are head-trained and primarily dry farmed.

#### HARVEST 2015

The 2015 vintage continues the hit parade of great quality vintages of the last four years. The season started under extreme drought conditions despite a wet early winter. January was very dry and warm and brought bud break earlier than expected. The rains returned in early February and dramatically slowed down the growth of the plants. May temperatures were some of the coldest on record and negatively impacted flowering and therefore fruit set. By the end of July, the heat returned and, coupled with limited fog intrusion, the ripening process sped along quickly. Despite an auspicious start and a dramatic finish to the season, the 2015 wines may surpass some of the great recent vintages as they are bold and yet maintain their trueness to site. With superb color, structure and acidity, the wines have staying power, but with the wonderful texture and richness that are expressed today, who can resist them now?

## **TECHNICAL NOTES**

Barrel Description: 23% new, 23% 1 yr., 54% 2 yr.

Barrel Aged: 14 months

pH: 3.37

TA: 0.72 g/100mL

Alc: 14.8%

Released Spring 2017

\$65

