

# CRAFTWORK

Zinfandel

sustainably farmed | estate vineyards
MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Honoring the best of traditional winemaking, the wines from our estate vineyards are handcrafted to showcase the natural expression of the vineyard, variety and vintage. In a world of flashy technology, some might call this hopelessly old-fashioned. We call it Craftwork.

### Tasting Notes

Aromas of plum and black currant mingle with ripe, juicy flavors of black cherry and strawberry jam. Well-integrated tannins unfold into a rich layered finish. The firm tannins make it a terrific pairing with tri-tip steak, sausage, and juicy burgers.

#### Winemaking

Upon arrival at the winery, the grapes were destemmed, crushed, and fermented in small lots in open top fermenters. Next the firm cap of skins and seeds that bubble up and form on the surface during red fermentation were gently "punched down" several times a day. Punching down is a traditional method that gives the skins as much contact with the fermenting wine as possible, allowing the color and the phenols from the skins to be transferred to the wine. After a 10-day fermentation in stainless tanks, the wine was aged with American oak to round out and soften the rich, black fruit flavors.

## Vintage

Not to be outdone by the 2013 growing season, the 2014 vintage was another stunner. Spring came early and lasted long. In the summer, cool nights led into overcast mornings that were followed by breezy, warm afternoons. These temperate conditions and ideal temperatures made the 2014 growing season an excellent one for even ripening and good flavor development.

#### Vineyards

The Zinfandel grapes were sourced from our estate San Lucas and Hames Valley vineyards. Hames is located at the southern edge of Monterey County and has a climate characterized by a high day-to-night temperature differential, with a variation of up to 50° quite common. The majority of this blend came from San Lucas, about 20 miles north of Hames Valley, is characterized by its beautiful rolling topography, sunshine-filled days, and cool nights.



TECHNICAL

Cooperage

3.66

pН ТА

6.0 g/L

Bottling Date

December 20, 2016

12 months on American oak



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