



Stuhlmuller Vineyards

2016 ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON ALEXANDER VALLEY

PROPRIETOR

Fritz Stuhlmuller

WINEMAKER

Leo Hansen

VINEYARDS

Stuhlmuller Vineyards, located in southern Alexander Valley, converges with two highly regarded Sonoma County appellations, Chalk Hill and Russian River Valley. On its eastern edge, the 150-acre vineyard borders the Russian River. Situated in a location that is part river benchlands and part hillside, the vineyard benefits from its alluvial gravel soils and the rockier soils of the hillside sections.

THE CLONES

The fruit for this Cabernet emphasizes three clones, from seven separate blocks, with vines from 15 to 30+ years old. From the river benchland, we use our clone 337 for its fruit-forward black cherry flavors. Hillside clone 7 fruit adds floral layers and classic Cabernet cassis and cherry elements. Our oldest plantings, a field selection from the Belle Terre Vineyard, provide tannic concentration and blue fruit notes.

THE VINTAGE

With abundant winter rainfall, and a warm February, the 2016 growing season had an early budbreak. The early start to the season was followed by a warm summer without any significant heat events, and an ideally timed cooldown in August. The result was a robust crop of exceptional quality.

WINEMAKING

Seven individual fermentations were done, using a mix of open-top tanks, and closed-top tanks where the must was pumped over. The closed-top tanks added to palate texture, while the open-top tanks retained fruit intensity. The wine was racked to 40% new French oak and underwent native malolactic fermentation. Each lot was fermented and aged separately for 10 months before blending, with barrel aging for a total of 18 months.

THE WINE

The incredible 2016 vintage has delivered everything we love in a great Alexander Valley Cabernet, with deep, luxurious layers of black cherry, black currant, sage, black olive, tar, tobacco, and smoked meat. On the palate, firm, age-worthy tannins add structure and definition to the rich dark berry flavors, with good natural acidity providing length and freshness.

ALCOHOL

14.4%

PRODUCTION

1600 cases

COMPOSITION

92.0% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8.0% Petit Verdot

RELEASE DATE

Spring 2019

pH

3.74

BOTTLED

May 2018

TOTAL ACIDITY

6.8 g/l

SUGGESTED RETAIL

\$45.00

