



Stuhlmuller Vineyards



2016 ESTATE ZINFANDEL 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

At Stuhlmuller, two special blocks have been set aside for growing small amounts of Zinfandel and Petite Sirah. These vines are head pruned to augment the natural intensity of the hillside fruit. The budwood for this Zinfandel came from the prized 120-year-old Teldeschi clone, a legendary selection from Dry Creek Valley.

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

Our Zinfandel and Petite Sirah were co-fermented as 100% whole berries in open-top tanks, where they spent 14 days on the skins. Aging was done in a mixture of 50% French and 50% American oak barrels, with 20% new oak. The wine was racked twice and spent 16 months in barrel.

THE WINE

Enticing perfumed aromas of rose and lavender rise from the glass, followed by layers of red cherry, plum, wild strawberry, apricot skin, and baking spice. Though silky and medium-bodied on the palate, abundant natural acidity underscores the vibrant red berry flavors, adding lushness and structure to a bright, lingering finish.

ALCOHOL
14.4%

PRODUCTION
550 cases

COMPOSITION
95% Zinfandel, 5% Petit Sirah

RELEASE DATE
Fall 2018

pH
3.85

BOTTLED
January 2018

TOTAL ACIDITY
6.0 g/l

SUGGESTED RETAIL
\$36.00