

2017

SYRAH

Heart Hill Vineyard, Willow Creek District

96% Syrah · 4% Malbec



VINEYARD

We farm 10 acres of Syrah at Heart Hill Vineyard, divided into 8 blocks. 2017 was a standout year for our Heart Hill Vineyard Syrah, and Block 18 in particular. Block 18 formed the base of this Reserve Syrah as well as being the only Syrah component in our 2017 Twisted Spur. The early season rains of 2017 reinvigorated the vines, and healthy canopies helped protect grapes from the heat spikes later in the year. We harvested Syrah throughout September, and knew we had something special from early on.

WINEMAKING

Our team was drawn to the herbal, licorice and fennel flavors in Block 18 Syrah from the start. This wine's striking characters were built in the vineyard. We hand-harvested the grapes and fermented them in a stainless-steel tank. A 20% whole-cluster component added complexity to the already present spice element. After pressing, we barrel aged the wine for 22 months in 55% New French Oak barrels. The final blend also includes smaller amounts of Block 6 and 25 Syrah, along with a splash of Malbec. The result is a lush and dark wine. The fruit is very much on the 'cool' spectrum, with ripe blueberry, plum and blackberry flavors. The palate has structured tannins and a richness that keeps going, long after you enjoy a sip.

WINEMAKER	Patrick Muran
CLONES	174, 877, 383 & 7
BLOCKS	18, 25, 6, 7 & 26
VINEYARD	Heart Hill Vineyard
AVERAGE BRIX	23.6
pH/TA	3.5/6.4 g/L
ALCOHOL	14.9%
AVERAGE YIELD	3.6 tons/acre
BARREL AGING	22 months
COOPERAGE	55% New French Oak
PRICE	\$65
CASES PRODUCED	311