

# ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS



Limited production wines that focus on some of the *best and unique* lots of wine harvested each year. Winemaker Kevin Hall creates wines showcasing unique varietals, techniques or vineyard sites.

Each hand crafted wine is small production, uniquely different and one of a kind.  
*750ml 6 bottle case Allocated*

## The 2014 Series: Primitivo

Primitivo is famous in southern Italy, particularly in the Puglia region (the country's boot heel) where the grape thrives. In California, there have been many debates on Primitivo's family connections to Zinfandel. Definitive genetic analysis completed at UC Davis in 2003 ultimately made a crucial link when it proved that California's Zinfandel, Italy's Primitivo and Croatia's Crljenak/Pribidrag all share the same DNA profile.

At Alexander Valley Vineyards, we've always been intrigued by the Zinfandel connection. In 2000 we planted an acre of Primitivo high above our estate. It quickly became apparent that the varietal had very different flavor profiles than Zinfandel planted in the same area. Those differences make it a perfect varietal for the Alexander School Reserve series.

The 2014 growing season was very similar to 2013. The ongoing drought combined with a mild winter and spring caused an early bud break, but the overall length of the growing season was similar to past years. The lack of rain did not impact our fruit due to moderate temperatures throughout the growing season and the grapes ripened evenly and reached peak maturity about two weeks earlier than in 2013. The grapes had excellent quality and harvest proceeded at a fairly quick pace. While news of the drought dominated conversations everywhere, there was an upside; the grapes had rich, concentrated flavors, much like the 2013s.

The 2014 Alexander School Reserve Primitivo offers aromas of blueberry and red cherry and distinctive flavors of blueberry, red cherry and cranberry along with a hint of warm spices. This is a plush wine with great acidity and grippy tannins on the finish.

**Accolades:** 2013: 90 points - *Wine Advocate*

### Profile

- Berry and spice with grippy tannins
- Rich, full bodied with silky texture

### About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Harry and Maggie Wetzel purchased 600 acres of Cyrus Alexander's 1840's homestead in 1962. They started planting grapes in 1963 and from the beginning they realized that the property that stretched from the banks of the Russian River to the hillsides of the Mayacamas Mountains was a very special place. The Wetzel Family Estate has a rich diversity of soil types, elevations, exposures and microclimates giving AVV winemaker Kevin Hall grapes that showcase the terroir and the special place that we call home, Alexander Valley.

### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** Primitivo 100%

**Harvest Dates:** September, 2013

**Barrel regimen:** 14 months in American Oak barrels

**Alcohol:** 16.3%

**Closure:** Cork **UPC:** 0-85798 08062-2

**Production:** 348 cases



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