

# 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 2015 Series: Old Vine Zinfandel

Old vine Zinfandel is all about complexity and nuance, each sip shares the story of the vine. Winemaker Kevin Hall selected Alexander Valley Zinfandel from a single 50 year old vineyard near the winery for this small production wine. The giant, gnarly old vines are head trained and spur pruned, yielding small clusters with fewer grapes per vine.

The 2015 growing season was similar to 2014. 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 the fruit due to moderate temperatures throughout the growing season and the grapes ripened evenly. While news of the drought dominated conversations everywhere, there was an upside; these small grapes had rich concentrated flavors, similar to the 2014s.

The small lot was cold soaked for 24 hours, then inoculated with a yeast that enhanced the Zinfandel's inherent fruitiness and spiciness. After fermentation and pressing, the wine was aged for 23 months in American oak barrels to develop complexity and soften the tannins.

On the nose there are aromas of spicy dark fruits, plum, chocolate, dried cherries, graphite, blueberry, oak and vanilla. In the glass there are rich flavors of dark fruits, spice, oak, vanilla, slight stone fruit and chocolate. While this is a big glass of wine, there is nice acidity and balance. There is a long finish, giving you time to reflect on the Wetzel Family's history with Zinfandel.

**Accolades:** 2015: 91 points - *Wine Advocate*

2015: Gold Medal - *San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition*



### 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:** 100% Zinfandel

**Harvest Dates:** September 18, 2015

**Barrel regimen:** 23 months in American Oak barrels

**Alcohol:** 15.8% **pH:** 3.85 **TA:** 6.95 g/L

**Closure:** Cork **Suggested Retail Price:** \$45

**Production:** 306 cases

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