

# 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 2017 Series: Petite Sirah

Sometimes you just want to try something different and very distinctive. We do too. The Alexander School Reserve wines offer winemaker Kevin Hall the opportunity to deviate from the traditional. In 2017 he selected two small lots of Petite Sirah from one of our favorite growers located about 7 miles north of AVV. Many years ago the vineyards were grafted to bud wood selected from an older Petite Sirah vineyard known for inky rich fruit. Decades later, the small valley floor and hillside sites produce tight clusters of tiny pea sized grapes from the old head pruned Petite Sirah vines. There are some that think Petite Sirah is just a version of Syrah. But make no mistake this is not Syrah.

2017 was a vintage of contrasts. Our ample rainfall in January and February allayed any talk of drought, but winter rains were followed by a warm spring and many heat spikes throughout the summer until we began harvest. We harvested the two lots for this wine on September 7.

After harvest the grapes were soaked for 24 hours to extract maximum color, then inoculated with yeast and punched down twice a day. After fermentation and pressing, the wine was aged for 22 months in six American oak barrels to develop complexity and soften the tannins.

The color of this inky dark purple wine alludes to the rich and concentrated flavors. Aromas of crushed berries (boysenberry & blueberry) tamed by vanilla, dark cherry and dark chocolate entice. There are flavors of blueberry, dark cherry, spice notes of cardamom, slight cinnamon and black pepper, along with nice acidity and a long finish. This wine will surprise and delight you. Best of all it is something different.

**Accolades:** 2017: 90 points - Wine & Spirits  
2017: Triple Gold Medal - Dan Berger's International Wine Competition  
2017: Double Gold Medal - San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition



**Profile** • Aromatic dark fruit • Rich with long finish

### 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:** Petite Sirah 98% and Zinfandel 2%

**Harvest Dates:** September 6, 2017

**Barrel regimen:** 22 months in American oak barrels

**Alcohol:** 15.5% **pH:** 3.60 **TA:** 6.3 g/L

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

**Production:** 305 (6 btl) cases **UPC:** 0 85798 10008 8



*Our family creates wines of distinction for everyone.*

Healdsburg - Sonoma County - California

avvwine.com

