

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 2018 Series: Petite Sirah

The Alexander School Reserve series offers winemaker Kevin Hall the opportunity to deviate from the traditional, giving wine lovers a chance to try something different. This is our 2nd vintage of Petite Sirah. 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.

The 2018 growing season began a bit cooler than the past few vintages, but we had a near perfect fruit set with moderate summer temperatures and relatively few heat spikes. The mild weather led to a longer hang time, allowing the grapes to ripen slowly with excellent flavors and balanced natural acidity. 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 20 months in twelve American oak barrels to develop complexity and soften the tannins.

The color of this inky dark purple wine alludes to the rich flavors. Aromas of crushed berries (boysenberry & blueberry), vanilla, dark cherry and dark chocolate entice. There are flavors of blueberry, dark cherry, spice 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: 2018: 97 points - *Beverage Dynamics / Cheers*
2018: 92 points - *James Suckling*

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 100%

Harvest Dates: September 22, 2018

Barrel regimen: 20 months in American oak barrels

Alcohol: 14.8% **pH:** 3.65 **TA:** 5.4 g/L

Closure: Cork **Suggested Retail Price:** \$50

Production: 568 (6 btl) cases **UPC:** 0 85798 10008 8



Our family creates wines of distinction for everyone.

Healdsburg - Sonoma County - California

avvwine.com

