

2015 Redemption Zinfandel

Since 2001 Alexander Valley Vineyards has produced Redemption Zinfandel showcasing classic Zinfandel from Dry Creek Valley.

Today, winemaker Kevin Hall harvests from two sites on the eastern side of the Dry Creek Valley. The majority of the grapes were harvested from a valley floor vineyard on West Dry Creek Road where the gravelly loam soil produces fruit with pronounced jammy flavors of black cherry, plum and black pepper. The balance were harvested from a hillside vineyard on Dry Creek Road with red rocky soil. This location produces smaller berries with higher acidity and dark fruit flavors of blackberry and blueberry.

At the winery, the fruit was cold-soaked for 24 hours, then individual lots were inoculated with different yeasts to achieve more complexity in the glass. Twice daily pumpovers followed to extract color, structure and flavor. The wine was barrel aged for 14 months to allow the tannins to soften and the blend of the different lots to harmonize.

The western drought continued in 2015 and was once again the topic of much discussion. A cool spring, rain at bloom and hot July along with the continued effects from the lack of rain contributed to lower yields. As a result the grapes had terrific concentration and superb fruit flavors at harvest. After harvest the different lots were de-stemmed, fermented separately, then aged in American oak barrels for 14 months.

This is a dark purple wine with spicy aromas of dark fruits, dark chocolate, black pepper, tea leaves, oak and vanilla. There are spicy flavors of black pepper, blackberry, blueberry, black cherry, molasses and chocolate. Kevin Hall says: "there is mouth filling texture with a long finish on this big, lush wine".

Food Pairing: Try it with grilled meats, pasta with red sauces and long slow braises.

Profile:

- Aromatic, spicy, and big
- Classic Dry Creek dark fruit and structure

Accolades:

- 2015: 92 points & Gold Medal - *Press Democrat Wine Challenge*
- 2015: Double Gold Medal - *San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition*
- 2015: 88 points - *Wine Spectator*
- 2015: 87 points - *Wine Advocate*

About the label artwork:

The inspiration for the image on our label is a painting attributed to the well known Renaissance artist Tiziano Vecelli, who is now simply referred to as Titian. The original title was thought to be "The Triumph of Virtue Over Vice," making it the perfect image to illustrate redemption. It is thought to be one of his last works c. 1575-1576 and over the years has been also been referenced as "Spain Succouring Religion"; "Religion Succoured by Spain" and "Spain Coming to the Aid of Religion." The painting was owned at one time by the Museo Nacional Del Prado, Madrid.



Technical Data:

Grapes: 100% Zinfandel

Harvest Dates: August 28 - September 8, 2015

Barrel Regimen: Aged for 14 months in American oak, 30% new

Alcohol: 14.9% **pH:** 3.54 **TA:** 6.7 g/L

SRP: \$24 **Production:** 2300 cases

