

## 2016 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. Sixty-seven percent of the grapes 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. The remaining 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.

Overall, 2016 was a more normal growing season than the last few years. While the drought was far from over, we received much needed rain over the winter and early spring. The good weather continued through the summer with no damaging heat spikes. Harvest started and ended early, yields were reduced a little, but the quality and flavor of the grapes were stellar.

After harvest 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.

This dark purple wine has spicy aromas of dark fruits, dark chocolate, black pepper, oak and vanilla. There are spicy flavors of black pepper, dark red and black fruit flavors of blueberry and black cherry along with chocolate. Kevin Hall says: "This is a big, rich wine with mouth filling texture and a long finish".

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

**Profile:**

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

**Accolades:** 2016: 90 points - *Wine Spectator*

2016: Double Gold Medal - *San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition*

### 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



### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** 100% Zinfandel

**Harvest Dates:** September 7 - 9, 2016

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

**Alcohol:** 15.6% **pH:** 3.74 **TA:** 6.8 g/L

**SRP:** \$24 **Production:** 2359 cases

