



RUSACK

2016 SYRAH BALLARD CANYON ESTATE



This wonderful wine comes from some of our Syrah vines (with a hint of our Petite Sirah) grown on our central Santa Ynez Valley estate. Hand harvested at dawn, the cool grapes traveled only a short distance to our sorting table and then into our destemmer. Once the must was in our open top bins, we began the fermentation/maceration process, including pomace cap punch downs numerous times for each of the next ten days. That process extracted the skins' dark colors, spicy flavors, and smoothing tannins. Once fermentation was complete the must was pressed off and the resulting 'wine' placed into a combination of French (94%) and American oak barrels (64% of which were new.) In February, some sixteen months later, this incredible Syrah was bottled, unfiltered, and released in the summer of 2019.

VINTAGE: 2016
VARIETAL: 92% SYRAH, 8% PETITE SIRAH
AVA: BALLARD CANYON
GROWER/RANCH: RUSACK VINEYARDS ESTATE
PRODUCED & BOTTLED BY: RUSACK VINEYARDS, SOLVANG, CA
BOTTLING DATE: FEBRUARY 2018
CASES PRODUCED: 1239 CASES
RETAIL PRICE: \$36.00
RELEASE DATE: SUMMER 2019
FERMENTATION: TEN DAY FERMENTATION FOLLOWED BY A 25 DAY EXTENDED MACERATION IN 1 TON OPEN BINS WITH REGULAR HAND PUNCH DOWNS
AGING: 16 MONTHS
94% FRENCH OAK, 6% AMERICAN OAK (64% NEW)
BOTTLE ANALYSIS: ALCOHOL: 14.2%
pH: 3.78
TA: 0.582g/100ml

TASTING NOTES: IN THIS BOTTLING, WE ADDED IN A TOUCH OF OUR ESTATE PETITE SIRAH TO ENHANCE STRUCTURE, COLOR, AND BUILD TO THE OVERALL COMPLEXITY. THIS RESULTING WINE CONTAINS CLASSIC AROMAS OF CASSIS, BLACKBERRY AND HINTS OF LICORICE. CONCENTRATED FLAVORS OF DRIED CHERRIES, BLACKBERRIES AND COCOA BLEND WITH VELVETY TANNINS THAT LINGER ON THE PALATE.

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