

2016

ZINFANDEL

PASO ROBLES

133 Cases | Bottled April 9, 2018

Suggested Retail: \$20

VINEYARD

Primitivo is an Italian selection of Zinfandel and produces excellent wines when grown in a warm region such as Paso Robles. Both the Double Black Vineyard Primitivo and Blind Faith Vineyard Petite Sirah are organically farmed.

The countryside around Double Black Vineyard looks a lot like Tuscany, rolling hills, lots of vineyards and the climate is similar, Mediterranean with warm summer days and cool evenings. This site is 23 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean, 700 feet above sea level and consists of well drained, fine sandy loam soils.

VINTAGE

Overall, the 2016 was a warm year. Every month except May was warmer than average, even with a cool stretch that lasted nearly a month between mid-August and early September. Anticipated El Niño rainfall was less than hoped for (eight inches) in Paso Robles, but still greater than the prior four vintages of drought and appears to have had a positive effect on yields and quality. Yield projections for 2016 were slightly below long-term averages. The long heat spikes we sometimes get did not materialize, so the grapes moved through maturation beautifully and were in great condition at harvest.

WINEMAKING

Our winemaking style focuses on balance, fruit flavors, limited use of new French oak barrels, and a ripe but restrained alcohol level. 10% whole clusters, 90% destemmed into 5-ton temperature controlled stainless steel tank.

Vineyard:

Double Black Vineyard (80% Zinfandel (Primitivo clone)
Blind Faith (20% Petite Sirah)

Harvest:

September 30, 2016. Harvested by hand

Fermentation:

Indigenous yeast,
and naturally occurring malolactic bacteria

Aging:

Aged in 1-4 year old French oak barrels for 16 months

Alcohol:	pH:	T.A.:
14.6%	3.52	5.85g/L



TASTING NOTES

This is a serious red wine with a dense, deep garnet color. Aromas are reminiscent of dried cranberry, white pepper and rose petal. The mouth offers great balance, soft round tannins and lingering cured meat, blueberry pie and rosemary flavors on the finish.