

2018 ESTATE SYRAH

ESTATE GROWN AND BOTTLED

Appellation

Napa Valley

Vineyard

Catacula Vineyard: 1200-1400 ft elevation, 1.26 acres of Syrah planted in 1996. Phelps and Estrella Clone on St. George rootstock.

Soil

Red Chert veined with Green Serpentine, our namesake soils, intermixed with Sobrante Loam

Harvest

Hand-picked September 25th and 26th

Vinification

Fruit was destemmed onto a shaker table and berry sorted into open top stainless steel tanks. A 3-day cold soak was followed by an approximately 10-day fermentation. Aged 14 months in our cave, in 70% American oak and 30% French oak barrels, 20% of which was new oak.

Production

196 cases bottled

Tasting Comments

Plum, blackberry and violet followed by white pepper and oak spice. This 100% Syrah is full bodied with firm mountain tannins and a long, spicy finish.

Alcohol 14.8% TA 5.48 g/L pH 3.86

Recommended Retail Price: \$36/bottle



On our label is "The Dionysus Cup," an ancient Grecian cup crafted by Exekias in 530 BC, which depicts Homer's "Hymn to Dionysus." Homer tells the story of pirates, cruising along the Aegean, who spot a strapping man and decide to take him hostage. The Helmsman warns them off, but the captain heads out to sea with their captive: Dionysus, the God of Wine. Soon "wine sprang forth, babbling, bubbling over the speedy black ship: it was sweet, it was fragrant, the odor was divine." The sea turned wine red and vines grew up the mast. Dionysius turns into a lion and attacks the captain; the other pirates dive over the edge, where they are turned into dolphins.