



LE DÉSIR
SONOMA COUNTY
VINTAGE 2016

Vérité Le Désir is a Cabernet Franc-based blend that exudes high-toned aromatics, an iron graphite core and a pronounced minerality. Inspired by the iconic wines of Saint-Émilion, Bordeaux, Le Désir redefines Cabernet Franc from the New World, with layers of concentrated fruit, exotic spice and a plush sueded texture. Vigneron Pierre Seillan tends to a mosaic of more than fifty micro-crus to produce the complex signature of Le Désir.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of crushed ripe black currants, stewed sweet plums, and grenadine harmonize with dried thyme, fresh spearmint, and rose petals. On the palate, complex and vibrant layers of black fruit are accompanied by warm toast, vanilla bean, star anise, and fresh clove. A pronounced iron minerality adds to the chorus of electric flavors and textures, which linger for some time after the last sip. Fine-grained tannins complemented by a backbone of acidity offer both an intensity and a freshness, providing a finish that is unique among New World wines. Tasted May 2019

BARREL AGING: Aged 17 months in French oak with majority new oak

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN: 82% Cabernet Franc, 12% Merlot, 6% Malbec

APPELLATIONS: Alexander Valley, Bennett Valley, Chalk Hill, Knights Valley

ALCOHOL: 14.2%

ACCLAIM

99 Points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, October 2018

99 Points - Jeb Dunnuck, *JebDunnuck.com*, June 2019

96 Points - James Suckling, *JamesSuckling.com*, May 2019

VIGNERON NOTES

The 2016 growing season proved, once again, the importance of pruning. After several years of drought, we adapted our techniques to work in concert with Mother Nature to produce grapes that would result in elegant, age-worthy wines.

The temperatures during the summer growing season were moderate with heat spikes in July and some cooler days in late August. This provided the ideal conditions for slower ripening, resulting in less sugar accumulation and good acidity in the grapes.

The harvest took place within a two-week period across all four appellations, beginning September 6th in Chalk Hill and ending on September 21st in Alexander Valley.

– Pierre Seillan, Vigneron



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