

2015 Nocturne

VINEYARD AND VINTAGE NOTES

2015 was a hot, dry year with no rain after April. The fruit load was about 30% less than expected and it arrived approximately two weeks early, probably due to the drought and lower yields

Dry years with low yields lead to smaller, concentrated berries which are perfect for producing flavorful wines.

WINEMAKING NOTES

2015 was the first year in our new facilities and everything seemed to be a bit more difficult than it should be as we became familiar with new equipment and processes.

Fermentation for the varietals in this blend was accomplished separately in open-topped fermenters. The wines were aged as single varietals with the initial blend being produced at approximately 18 months, after completion of oak aging. Following blending the wine was allowed to integrate for six months prior to bottling.

WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES

This wine was a bit of a surprise for us. Due to a fruit shortage in 2015 we were forced to use Mourvedre instead of Carignane to provide balance to our darker, Syrah-based blend. The Mourvedre produced a brighter, more fruit forward wine than we had planned, but it was a fortunate accident because we think we like it better this way.

In this wine Syrah provides the major dark fruit components of blackberry, currant, and dark plum. The Mourvedre gives the wine herbaceous components of violet and black pepper as well as a tannic backbone that will allow the wine to age. Carignane brings dried raspberry and cranberry to the mid-palate and provides a lingering finish.

This is an easy to drink wine right out of the bottle, but it will also stand up well to heavier foods with a little spice such as Pepper Steak with Balsamic Onion Reduction.



Varietal:	72% Syrah, 25% Mourvedre, 3% Carignane
Appellation:	Santa Clara Valley
Harvest Date:	September 14 th & 26 th 2015
Alcohol:	15.2%
TA:	6.4 g/L
pH:	3.79
RS:	0.32%
Oaking:	35% new French, Medium+ toast, oak for 12 months.
Bottling Date:	June 6 th , 2018
Production:	80 cases
Aging Potential:	10 years