



RED MARE WINES

2016 . Alpha Mare Red . Napa Valley

2016 Vintage Notes:

The 2016 vintage is the last of Napa's recent drought years. Luckily, late spring rains helped recharge the soil profile giving a strong start to the season. The early season started off well with no frosts or big temperature spikes. After the cool spring of 2015, this uneventful spring was welcome. Mild temperatures continued into August and allowed for outstanding flavor development and retention of acid. 2016's moderate yields and ideal temperatures are apparent with the expressive fruit flavors and freshness showing in the glass.

Winemaker Notes:

Our tiny production 2016 Alpha Mare is bold. Just after it lands in the glass, it fills the room with warm fruit-filled confectioner aromas. Rum-soaked dried fruits, cola, and shortbread play together, giving you the feeling you are in a pastry shop that is also selling loads of fresh berries. Aromas of sappy cedar fill an already overstuffed profile creating a lovely complexity. The mouth is full to the brim. Generous body, delicious ripe fruit flavors are cradled in a subtle acidity. The tannins are like suede, elegant, and very supple. It has a long, fruit-driven finish that is, at the same time powerful, yet restrained and elegant.

Vineyard & Winemaking Notes:

Alpha Mare is the leader of the herd. This wine is Anne's carte blanche and represents the best of her craft. Barrel fermentation in small 225L oak barrels results in slower, cooler fermentation. The shape and size of the barrel produces a submerged cap. Gentle and consistent, this method of extraction gives mouth-filling, lush, and broad tannic structure. The use of native yeast adds to the complexity, and a co-fermentation of Cabernet Sauvignon with Malbec and Petit Verdot creates a round, vibrant, and pleasing wine with intense color and depth.

Production: 120 cases

TA: 5.87 g/L

pH: 3.83

Alc: 15.2%

100% French Oak

66% New Oak

100% Barrel Fermented

Appellation and Varietal Breakdown:

72% St Helena ~ Cabernet Sauvignon

17% Coombsville ~ Malbec

11% Calistoga ~ Petit Verdot