



RED MARE WINES

2017 . Red Mare Wines . Napa Valley . La Vaquera

This wine brings to mind all sorts of delicious sun warmed California fruits. The nose has a beautiful, delicate spun sugar character along-side robust aromas of fresh plum, powdery lilac, honey, raspberry leaf, and cotton candy. Once in the mouth, the texture is firm, with lots of sweetness of fruit effusive and aromatic in the mouth. There is an immediacy to the wine; it is generous, but not overwhelming. The delicious fruit lingers, but very lightly on a clean and concise finish.

2017 Vintage Notes:

2017 is perhaps remembered with anxiety for most winemakers in California's North Coast. Warmer nighttime temperatures in March pushed an early bud break for most varieties, setting the stage for the difficulty in April when a hail storm surprised the nascent young shoots. The summer months were filled with lots of little heat storms, the last one in early September, not so little, reaching 106 in "cooler" regions. Thankfully, this was the last, and the rest of September yielded to a welcome string of cooler, more moderate days with a thick marine layer lasting through mid-morning.

Thankfully, we already had our Swickard vineyard fruit in the house when on October 8th hot and dry offshore winds fueled the devastating fires which tore through many parts of Napa and Sonoma.

Vineyard & Winemaking Notes:

La Vaquera means cowgirl in Spanish. This wine is our cowgirl, a wild and precious wine, borne out of a love of "mixed black's", those dark, big berried varieties. A new and bold blend with little heed for the traditional, La Vaquera breaks every mold. A tiny Petite Sirah vineyard in the northern reaches of the Calistoga appellation is the primary source for this wine. Appropriately, this site is owned by the Swickard Family, renowned cattle ranchers of Five Dot Farms. This wine is a blend of our darkest and juiciest lots. Petite Sirah, Petit Verdot, and Malbec make up the primary voice of the blend.

Production: 90 cases

TA: 5.8 g/L

pH: 3.71

Alc: 15.0 %

100% French Oak

15% New Oak

Vineyard & Appellation Breakdown:

51% Swickard Vineyard ~ Petite Sirah

49% Stagecoach ~ Cabernet Sauvignon