



2016 SYRAH HYDE VINEYARD - CARNEROS NAPA VALLEY

Vintage

Drought conditions persisted through the 2016 growing season with many new records set with bud break and early ripening in all our vineyards. The plants continued to accelerate their cycle through harvest with some of the earliest pick dates on record. All our grapes were harvested before the first significant Autumn rain. Set was decent and the dry conditions were perfect for sustainable farming with very little disease pressure. Quality in 2016 is fantastic, and the weather during harvest time was ideal. The heat waves were mild and we had some wide picking windows to strategically plan our stylistic preferences for all wines. An incredible 5th consecutive high quality vintage.

Vineyard

Planted in 1979 by Larry Hyde, Hyde Vineyard is one of the gems of Napa Carneros. Forty-four distinct blocks are planted to primarily Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, with only a few coveted blocks planted to other varietals. The Syrah Noir Clone from Block 5 at the home ranch is planted North-South on 3309 Rootstock. Ancient sedimentary shallow loamy soils drain well and allow the plants to dig deep roots, naturally balancing the vines with low yields and concentrated fruit. The Hyde Family is dedicated to growing the finest quality grapes and understands the connection between the site and those who work it.

Winemaking

Our inaugural vintage from the Hyde Vineyard. This cool site allows for ripe flavors with a backbone of natural acidity and low alcohol. A Côte-Rôtie style blend distinct from our other offerings, comprising of only Syrah and Viognier. The wine is fermented in 500L puncheons, which allows for extended maceration and softening of the tannins. Whole Berry Syrah (76%), Whole Berry Viognier (4%), and Whole Syrah Clusters (20%) add a layer of complexity to the nose and mouthfeel. Aged in puncheons to preserve the freshness, the wine was bottled without fining and gently filtered.

Tasting Notes

The aromatics from the Viognier fulfill the senses as white pepper, bacon fat and wild blackberry greet the nose upon decanting. The mouthfeel is structured with graphite that highlights the freshness. A round, earthy finish expands into savory blueberry. The acidity should reward aging through 2035.

Reviews

Harmonious and effortlessly complex, with delicately expressive black cherry, cigar box and smoked pepper flavors that build richness toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2026. **94 points**, TF, *Wine Spectator*, April 2019

Analysis

Harvested:	September 16th, 2016
Composition:	96% Syrah Noir, 4% Viognier
Alcohol:	13.5%
Bottling Date:	July 2018
Release Date:	March 2019
Production:	122 cases