

# HENDRY



Est. 1939

CELEBRATING EIGHT DECADES OF FAMILY WINEGROWING

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## HENDRY VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY

### 2019 PETITE SIRAH

The Hendry Vineyard is located on benchlands just west of the town of Napa. All of our vines grow on thin, stony soils between 200 and 300 feet above sea level. The vineyard is at the intersection of the cooler Carneros appellation and the greater Napa Valley, which becomes warmer as you travel northward. Morning fog and afternoon breezes from the San Pablo Bay moderate the climate, giving us long, warm summer days and cooler nights.

Petite Sirah was one of three varieties that made up the original six acres of grapes on the Hendry Ranch when it was purchased in 1939, along with Zinfandel and Carignan. Petite Sirah in California dates back to the 1880s. It is now known to be a cross between Syrah and Peloursin, a little-known French grape. It is also referred to as "Durif," after the French botanist who first propagated the variety using pollens from the two parents, and then distributed the cross.

Block 23, formerly planted to Zinfandel, is now the site of the first Petite Sirah on our ranch since the original six acres of vines were replanted in the mid-1980s. The vines in Block 23 were chip-grafted over to Petite Sirah in 2018. In 2019, veraison was on August 11th in Block 23, and harvest was on September 27th. This wine was aged 15 months in French oak barrels, approximately 33% of which were new. This is our first bottling.

Inky ruby-purple color. Full body apparent on the first swirl. Intriguing aromas initially show cedar and spice, with a dusty edge. The wine is smooth, silky and full on the palate, with round, soft, blueberry fruit. Tannins are fine-grained, reminiscent of black tea, and well-integrated. Moderate acidity. Balanced and delicious, with an "old world" feel--the fruit does not dominate the earthy, spicy and herbal flavors and aromas. This wine makes us long for slow-braised beef with mushrooms, grilled beef or lamb kabobs, or even a mole, cooked slow and low, with rich, exotic spices and complex, layered flavors. Decanting will prolong the delight as more flavors and aromas emerge.

*Alcohol:* 15%

*TA:* 7.9

*VA:* .64

*Cases Produced:* 234

