

FRANCIS COPPOLA RESERVE

DRY CREEK VALLEY

2015 SYRAH



FRANCIS COPPOLA RESERVE

The connection between a vine and the soil it's planted in creates the essence of a wine. Francis Coppola Reserve wines are vineyard-specific creations produced in limited quantities from distinctive sites in Sonoma County. Our winemaking team hand-selects the best lots of fruit from each vintage that capture the unique qualities of these prestigious vineyards. From these selections, we craft small-batch wines which are reserved exclusively for winery guests, Wine Family members, and those who shop with us online.

DRY CREEK VALLEY

Dry Creek Valley, which is sixteen miles long and just two miles wide, experiences warm daytime temperatures that give way to chilly evenings due to fog that rolls into the valley in the late afternoon and remains until the sun comes out the next day. This pattern prolongs the growing season, allowing the grapes to mature slowly for more concentration. It also helps the fruit retain an ideal level of natural acidity, which is important for red grape varieties such as Syrah. For our 2015 Francis Coppola Reserve Syrah, we sourced fruit from 3 different vineyards in Dry Creek Valley; Abbe Vineyard, Burwell Vineyard, and Virginia Dare Winery's estate vineyard.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

2015 was the fourth consecutive season of exceptional fruit quality in California and one in which there was another early harvest. Warm spring conditions prompted early bud break and lack of rain coupled with steady temperatures throughout the summer months contributed to lower yields and rich, concentrated fruit. These conditions also produced excellent tannin development, which makes for a more supple wine. Because of high levels of organic matter in the vineyards used for this blend, dark jammy fruit flavors are prominent in this wine.

TASTING NOTES

This year's Francis Coppola Reserve Syrah offers more weight and concentration than previous vintages. Rich and extremely lush on the palate, this full-bodied wine boasts impeccable structure and precision. Distinctly earthy in character, the initial fragrance offers briary berry impressions along with tobacco, nutmeg, lavender, and notes of Herbes de Provence. Dark, succulent flavors of cherries and black plums follow, with elevated spice nuances on the toasted wood, mocha-tinged finish. This is a vintage from which you'll want extra bottles to cellar.

Appellation: Dry Creek Valley
Blend: 92% Syrah, 8% Petite Sirah
Alcohol: 14.9%
Barrel Regimen: 15 months in French oak;
25% new oak

**FRANCIS FORD
COPPOLA
WINERY**

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