

# KINSELLA ESTATES

Kinsella Estates is an organically farmed vineyard situated in a private valley in the foothills of the western edge of Sonoma's Dry Creek Valley. Elevated 500 feet above the Russian River, the valley enjoys a warm climate that virtually never sees winter frost. The hills even harbor occasional citrus trees. The East-West running valley is planted with 12 acres of cabernet sauvignon vines on the steep eastern hillsides composed of loamy, metamorphic soil. The valley drains a large watershed where a winter stream rapidly fills up Spencer Lake which provides irrigation water in summer.

The Kinsella Estates vineyard is composed of three blocks: The Heirloom Vineyard, a steep-sloping two acre, 19 year old parcel, wedged in between an arroyo and a knoll of Spanish oaks; the six acre Jersey Boys Vineyard and the four acre lakeside Spencer Vineyard. The arroyo that runs between Jersey Boys and Spencer vineyards feeds the lake, with winter rains. In the summer of 2008, the latter two blocks were ripped out and replanted with four different clones of cabernet sauvignon, handpicked by our winemaker, Thomas Rivers Brown. Also, two thirds of an acre of Wente clone zinfandel was planted, as well as eight rows of petit verdot. All Kinsella Estates wines are produced from organically grown grapes, grown without pesticides or herbicides.

<b>VINEYARD:</b>	Spencer Vineyard
<b>WINEMAKER:</b>	Thomas Rivers Brown
<b>VARIETAL:</b>	92% Cabernet, 8% Petit Verdot
<b>APPELLATION:</b>	Dry Creek Valley Sonoma County
<b>RELEASE DATE:</b>	February 27, 2018
<b>HARVEST DATE:</b>	September 30, 2015
<b>ALCOHOL:</b>	14.6%
<b>PRODUCTION:</b>	343 cases



## 2015 SPENCER VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Our only non-100% varietal, (92% cabernet / 8% petite verdot), this vintage certainly picks up where the 2014 left off. Engaging right out of the bottle, this bright cuvee is chock full of notes of ripe black currant, graphite and clove. Cigar box and violet mesh wonderfully with this higher acid cabernet and would be smashing with a dry aged ribeye!

### **Vintage Notes**

From one of the earliest seasons on record and a fourth year of drought, the quality is high across the board. A mild winter caused early bud break, followed by a much longer bloom contributing to smaller grape clusters which led itself to a 20% reduction in crop size. An intense, compacted harvest began the first week of September and finished with a bang just six weeks later. The early and quick start was due to an unusually warm Spring that contributed to early vine development. Once again, we feel blessed with a 3rd straight vintage of astonishing quality. The only wish for the 2015 vintage would be for more fruit!

*“This estate remains somewhat under the radar, but the high quality emanating from their vineyards in Dry Creek merits serious attention.”*

– Robert M. Parker, *The Wine Advocate*