

2016 Sonoma County *Cuvée Keltie Syrah*

The 2016 vintage was a relief for Donelan after the low yielding, shatter-laden, hot vintage of 2015. Some people referred to the vintage as a goldilocks year because everything was just right. Bud break, flowering, veraison were all on schedule and came in predictably. Harvest was neither too warm, nor too cool. This gave us much flexibility. Picks and sugar maturation happened at a slow, even pace. Slow physical ripeness allowed the grapes to ripen in parity. 2016 was a magical vintage.

Cuvée Keltie is a direct result of careful study in the vineyard. Identifying subtle shifts in terroir and personality in the vineyard allows our team to isolate some sections of vineyards—sometimes just a few rows or the top of a hill and often in one- or two-ton increments. Optimal ripeness in these sections combined with large percentages of whole-cluster creates a wine we relish in.

The 2016 matches our favorite aspects in the nose with cured meats, dried flowers, dark fruits and lavender. On the palate, richness and structure are in beautiful harmony, creating irresistible liveness. This wine is so beautiful in its youth that it can be hard to resist, but we believe time will reward you with this particular wine.

Location

The 2016 vintage contains syrah hand selected from Kobler Vineyard in Green Valley, Steiner Ranch in Bennett Valley, Obsidian Vineyard in Knights Valley and Richards Family Vineyard in Sonoma Valley.

Cellar Notes:

Percentage New Oak	Composition
None	100% Syrah
Barrel Aging	Alcohol
22 months	14.7%
Bottling Date	Production
August 2018	296 cases

77% Whole Cluster · Native Ferment/Native ML

