

JOSEPH SWAN VINEYARDS

2916 LAGUNA ROAD, FORESTVILLE, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY.
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2017 Zinfandel - Zeigler Vineyard- Russian River Valley

THE VINEYARD:

We have been working with this vineyard for over 30 years. Planted in the early 1920's, time has not particularly kind to the vines. The total number of viable vines has shrunk over the years and with it fruit production. In 2017 we were only able to harvest enough fruit for three barrels of wine. Zeigler is a tough old vineyard. Cool growing conditions, shallow soil underlaid by a hard pan and the ravages of time result in vines that produce precious few clusters. The classic profile of Zeigler over the years is blackberry fruit along with a noticeable black pepper spice note. This year is no exception but it also possesses a bit more elegance and refinement.

WINEMAKING:

After hand harvesting, the grapes were 100% destemmed and gravity fed into an open-top fermenter, where it fermented naturally with wild yeast. Punchdowns occurred up to 3 times per day at the peak of fermentation for 21 days until dry. Once pressed and settled overnight, the wine was racked off the lees and into 100% neutral French oak barrels where it underwent full malolactic fermentation. It was aged in barrel for 2 years before bottling. Unfined, and unfiltered. Just 74 cases produced.

THE WINE:

Bright fruit characters of blackberry and raspberry, black pepper spice. Beautiful acidity making it a complimentary pairing with most foods. 14% ABV

