

JOSEPH SWAN VINEYARDS

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2018 Zinfandel - Cuvée de Trois- Russian River Valley

THE VINEYARDS:

In 2018 we decided to make a small lot of Zinfandel in the same spirit as our Cuvée de Trois Pinot Noir. We tasted through the barrels and came up with a blend of Banfield, Vine Hill School Road, and Zeigler vineyards. All of the vineyards are in the Russian River Valley AVA. Each in their own Sub-AVA, which we call the Neighborhoods. Banfield is located in Green Valley and is the oldest vineyard we work with, planted in 1881. Vine Hill School Road is the closest to the winery, about half a mile, is in our Laguna Ridge Neighborhood. And Zeigler, also old vines planted in the 1920's is located in the Santa Rosa Plains Neighborhood. Each adds a unique identity to the Cuvée de Trois of Zinfandel.

WINEMAKING:

After hand harvesting, the grapes were 20% whole cluster, 80% destemmed and gravity fed into an open-top fermenter, where they separately fermented naturally with wild yeast. Punch-downs occurred up to 3 times per day at the peak of fermentation for up to 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. Each vineyard was aged separately in barrel for almost 2 years before blending, and bottling. Unfined, and unfiltered.

THE WINE:

Each vineyard shows through in this wine with their classic characters. Blackberry from Vine Hill School Road, black pepper from Zeigler, and perfectly mature boysenberry, great acidity, power and length from Banfield. 14.9% ABV

