# VIRTUAL THURSDAY NOV 19 WINE 7 PM TASTING

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### **RODNEY STRONG CABERNET SAUVIGNON** ALEXANDER VALLEY

#### **2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

**ESTATE VINEYARDS** 



#### **OUR STORY**

At Rodney Strong Vineyards we focus on modern artisan winemaking, exclusively from Sonoma County, California. Our family-owned winery is committed to quality wines and to protecting our resources for the future. We are solar powered, certified sustainable, practice Fish Friendly Farming and were the first to officially offset our carbon footprint in Sonoma County.

#### **HISTORY**

Rod Strong recognized the Alexander Valley as an ideal place to grow Cabernet Sauvignon as far back as 1971, when he planted our first Cabernet vineyard on a hill known as Alexander's Crown. Today we proudly farm four different Estate vineyards on the benches and hillsides above the valley floor, where Cabernet displays the finest expression of the Alexander Valley terroir.

#### THE VINTAGE & VINEYARD

The 2016 growing season was about as close to ideal as we could've asked for. We received an average amount of rain over winter, with only one big storm in early March that topped off soil moisture. Spring was pleasant, so the vines got off to a great start. Average temperatures continued through summer with the occasional heat spike that Cabernet seems to love. Warm temperatures continued through the fall, which meant harvest started about a week earlier than normal. Harvest kicked off September 12 and ended around October 11 under ideal conditions.

#### **TASTING NOTES**

A powerful Cabernet Sauvignon from the hillsides of Alexander Valley has aromas of lush, red plum and dark berries that dominate the glass, while hints of cassis and milk chocolate play in the background. The dried fig and chewy tannins give this wine a strong backbone, while the 18 months of barrel aging have softened this bold wine just enough to enjoy now or with a cheese and charcuterie board, filet mignon with grilled vegetables or a dark chocolate mousse. Drink over the next five to seven years.





**WINEMAKERS** Justin Seidenfeld

ALCOHOL 14.5%

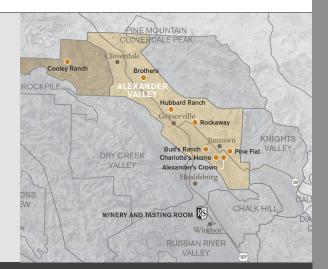
TA 0.63g/100 mL

**APPELLATION** Alexander Valley

VARIETAL 93% Cabernet Sauvignon

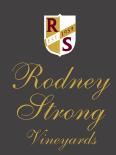
4% Merlot 2% Petit Verdot 1% Malbec

CELLAR & 18 months in 41% new FERMENTATION French oak barrels



## 2016 Reserve CABERNET SAUVIGNON SONOMA COUNTY

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#### **PHILOSOPHY**

Our Reserve wines are the result of a careful blend of individual lots from meticulously farmed sections of some of the very best vineyards in Sonoma County. Created in our small lot Artisan Cellar, Winemaker Justin Seidenfeld employs techniques such as cluster pre-sorting and extended maceration. With small tanks and equipment sized for the most discriminating vineyard selection process, our cellar is state-of-the-art and represents the Klein family commitment to producing the finest wines possible.

#### IN THE CELLAR

For our 2016 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, select areas within each vineyard are hand harvested, fermented separately and aged in the finest French oak. Each lot is tasted and graded and only the best are considered. The blend is then assembled, and the wine is aged 30 months before bottling.

#### THE VINTAGE

The 2016 growing season was about as close to ideal as we could've asked for. We received an average amount of rain over winter, with only one big storm in early March that topped off soil moisture. Spring was pleasant, so the vines got off to a great start. Average temperatures continued through summer with the occasional heat spike that Cabernet seems to love. Warm temperatures continued through the fall, resulting in an earlier harvest date than usual. Harvest kicked off September 24 - October 11.

#### TASTING NOTES

Rich, lush and structured, the 2016 vintage displays intense aromas of black currant, cassis and crushed violet. This wine is velvety with a smooth, lingering finish of herbal notes, vanilla and cocoa. Enjoy this wine now with a grilled porterhouse, rack of lamb, or a winter vegetable roast or lay a few bottles down in your cellar to enjoy in 4 to 6 years.



WINEMAKERS Justin Seidenfeld, Tom Klein (vintner)

WINE GROWER Ryan Decker

ALCOHOL 15.0% TA 0.60 g/100 mL PH 3.67

APPELLATION 50% Sonoma County, 50% Alexander Valley

VINEYARDS 50% Cooley Ranch, 49% Brothers, 1% Rockaway

BLEND 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

CELLAR & FERMENTATION 30 months in French oak barrels, 50% new





SONOMA COUNTY 2017

#### **OUR STORY**

Sonoma County has always been a land of pioneers—a place where innovation is as limitless as the sky. In that spirit, we've set our winemakers free to follow their passion. Inspired by the unique qualities of our high-elevation Cooley Ranch vineyard in northeastern Sonoma County, they've returned with wines using varietals benefiting from the unique confluence of the mountains, sea, and fog of Cooley Ranch, untethered by trends or tradition, yet grounded in the history of the land.

#### **VINEYARDS**

Bordeaux varietals thrive on steep terrain and volcanic soil and our Cooley Ranch vineyard is precisely the kind of landscape they love, with elevations ranging from 800 to 2,040 feet. Also, due to being above the fog line, Cooley Ranch warms up during harvest to allow for hotter growing temperatures and extra tannin development. All of this provides beautifully ripened fruit and balanced acidity.

#### THE VINTAGE & VINEYARDS

Early winter showers were followed by a warm, dry beginning to the new growing season, setting the stage for an early bud break. Alternating overcast days and heat waves continued through spring and summer, with a particularly hot period in late June, and an unseasonal rain in July. We harvested the grapes at peak ripeness from September 28 through October 7 under ideal conditions.

#### **TASTING NOTES**

The 2017 ROWEN red blend is a lush and elegant wine consisting of wonderful high elevation, mountain fruit. The wine has aromas of dark cherries, blackberries and sweet toasted oak from the co-fermented Viognier. On the palate, the wine is balanced and structured from the Cabernet Sauvignon with notes of juicy cassis, light floral and sweet vanilla. Co-fermenting the Syrah with the Viognier is a classic Norther Rhone technique which adds an exotic floral element to the finished wine as well as a rounder mouthfeel. Enjoy this wine now with sharp cheeses and charcuterie, grilled filet mignon, cocoa dusted chocolate torte or cellar for enjoyment for years to come.

WINEMAKER Justin Seidenfeld

ALCOHOL 14.5%

TA 0.58gm/100ml

PH 3.64

APPELLATION Sonoma County

VINEYARD Cooley Ranch

BLEND 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22%

Malbec, 15% Syrah,

3% Viognier

CELLAR & 24 months in 100% French oak

FERMENTATION barrels, 45% new

