



2016
SYRAH
VIVIO VINEYARD
BENNETT VALLEY

This year we were able to deliver a wine that's a step closer to our ideal. We can thank Mother Nature but also Scott and Kieran for the decisions they made at harvest and in the cellar. We picked earlier, we included more whole clusters, and we selected different barrels. All of these changes resulted in a wine that affirms the righteousness of its site and the tenets of Old World winemaking.

The nose broadcasts violets, plum and menthol and murmurs white pepper and birch. (Birch being winemaker's shorthand for winter-green and leather.) On the tongue, the earthy bouquet gives way to blueberries, currants and plums. Astute tasters report a bite of white chocolate, which we attribute to the cooperage.

Decanting has a salutary effect on the wine's texture. Tannins that are chewy upon opening soften with time in the glass, revealing a wine that is structured and juicy and beckons another sip. And another. And . . .

VINEYARD: *Vivio Vineyard*
ELEVATION: *750 ft.*
SOILS: *Sonoma Volcanics*
EXPOSURE: *East Facing*
CLONES: *470, Aussie & Alban*
BRIX AT HARVEST: *25.6*
HARVEST DATE: *1 Oct. 2016*
FERMENTATION: *Co-fermented with 7% Roussanne, No Amendments*
COOPERAGE: *Damy, Meyrieux, Cadus*
AGING: *20 Mos, 50% New Oak*

5 BARRELS PRODUCED

\$38

