



2016 Estate Syrah - Donna's
Estate Small Lot Collection - Sta. Rita Hills

Named for Ron Melville's wife, Donna's block is planted atop twenty feet of sand in the northeast section of our vineyard and is composed of equal parts clone 1 and Estrella clone. Fermented with 100% whole clusters and aged in neutral barrel, this wine provides vividly enhanced aromatics and structure making it demonstrative of the extremely cool climate of the site on which it is grown. Fruit was fermented in small 1.5 ton open-top fermenters with total skin and stem contact averaging 30 days (a 7 day cold soak, 2+ weeks fermentation and 1+ week extended maceration). From the press, the wine was transferred directly into neutral French oak barrels where it remained sur lie with no sulfur until May and was then prepared for bottling in December.

Wine Enthusiast: 95 points

Wine & Spirits: 95 points

Antonio Galloni: 94 points

***Tasting Notes:** Dark magenta in color, with rich and savory aromatics of beef tartare, teriyaki, cocoa powder, and dried nori are immediately apparent. With time, lifted nuances of white peppercorns, ginger, fennel and salt water taffy emerge. The palate presence is juicy and concentrated, with mouth-watering ripe tannins and excellent purity along with a vibrant streak of acidity that anchors the wine's voluptuous and elongated finish.*

AVA: Sta. Rita Hills

100% Syrah

Cases Produced: 584

Clones: Estrella, Clone 1

Elevage: Aged in neutral barrel (10-20 year old French oak)

Fermentation: 100% whole cluster

Alcohol: 14.8%