

96 POINTS

-Jeb Dunnuck, 2019

EST.  1858

GUNDLACH BUNDSCHU

2015 VINTAGE RESERVE

Sonoma Valley

COMPOSITION

76% Cabernet Sauvignon
11% Cabernet Franc
6% Petit Verdot
6% Malbec
1% Merlot

WINEMAKING

Six lots hand- and optically-sorted and gravity fed to fermentation vessels.
Five day cold soak; D254 and indigenous yeast strains
26-28 days maceration
Extraction through gentle pump-overs

COOPERAGE

20 months
100% French oak, 65% new
Taransaud, Quintessence,
Ermitage and Demptos

ALC/pH/ACID

Alc: 14.9%
pH: 3.83
TA: 0.54 g/100mL

CASES PRODUCED

1,216 cases
Released Sept. 2019

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

\$125.00

CONTACT

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VINTAGE NOTES

Small in quantity but huge in quality and concentration. Yields were naturally down after three large harvests, and some inclement weather in the spring further limited the size. Vines had no problems fully ripening a smaller crop during the early starting growing season, resulting in small but extremely concentrated, flavorful berries. Stellar, intense wines and tannins with great aging potential.

VINEYARD INFORMATION

Since 1981, the Bundschu family has crafted a limited bottling of the vintage's most elegant and expressive vines with the designation Vintage Reserve. Winemaker Keith Emerson selects individual barrels to blend a wine that showcases the distinctive character of Cabernet-family grapes grown on the southwest slopes of the Mayacamas Mountain Range. Our 161+ year old estate vineyard lies eight miles north of San Pablo Bay on steep, shallow soils of volcanic ash and tufa, exposed to pervasive maritime breezes, long daylight hours and extreme diurnal temperature shifts. Top blocks are farmed specifically for Vintage Reserve that yield 2.5 tons/acre. Lots sourced from other high elevation sites in Sonoma Valley add weight to the midpalate and a juicy component to the well-structured Cabernet Sauvignon from our cooler climate estate vineyard.

TASTING NOTES

"The 2015 Vintage Reserve checks in as a blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc, 6% Malbec, 5% Petit Verdot, and the rest Merlot, all aged 20 months in 65% new French oak. Deep ruby/purple-colored with a stunning nose of currants, Asian spices, tobacco, and graphite, it hits the palate with a full-bodied, deep, layered, yet seamless profile...it doesn't lack for tannin or structure, yet it's beautifully balanced and has an awesome finish. This is an incredibly classic, old-school Cabernet Sauvignon that's going to hit maturity around age 6-8 and cruise for two decades or more."

-Jeb Dunnuck

The first bottle and label in the newest Vintage Reserve series, where we highlight the art in the bottle with the art on the label. Each label in this series is a commissioned artwork that honors a nuance of our family's estate and reflects the meticulous attention to detail we apply to crafting our Vintage Reserve wines. Artist Elise Wehle's piece "Mary's House" depicts the interior of our family's original home, using hand-cut patterns and vintage photographs.