



WILLIAM KNUTTEL

William Knuttel's winemaking journey began at Saintsbury, where he was winemaker from 1983 to 1996 and established that brand as an international leader in high-end Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in the Burgundian style. William Knuttel was also Vice President and Winemaker at Chalk Hill Winery from 1996 to 2003, specializing in ultra-premium Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Gris. From 2003 to 2011 Knuttel was Executive Winemaker at Dry Creek Vineyard, where he completely re-honed the styles and quality of that winery's extensive portfolio. Knuttel was also ZAP's winemaker in 2005, producing their Heritage Zinfandel, and President of the California Cabernet Society from 1999-2003.



2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON "WINDSOR OAKS VINEYARD" CHALK HILL, SONOMA

Aromas of blackberry, black cherry, and spiced tea rise unabated from this inky black wine. A well-integrated backbone of velvety tannins and toasty oak highlights cherry and cassis flavors, leading to concentrated fruit in a seamless and assertive finish. Our entire block of Windsor Oaks Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon was hand harvested on September 11th, 2015, after a warm and steady growing season ripened one of the smallest crops we have seen in this vineyard.

For this single vineyard bottling, the ripest and most flavorful section of the vineyard was crushed separately into one-ton fermenters. Native fermentation began spontaneously after three days of a cold soak. The cap was punched down three times per day through the end of fermentation, and then pressed off immediately.

The free run portion was racked to French oak for twenty months of aging, at which time eight barrels (four new and four 2-year-old) were selected for this bottling. The wine was bottled unfinned in August of 2017. Only 128 cases were produced.