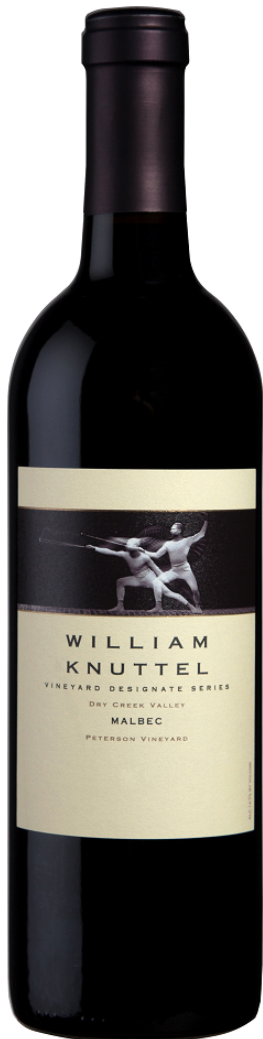




WILLIAM KNUTTEL

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.



2017 MALBEC "PETERSON VINEYARD" DRY CREEK VALLEY, SONOMA

Peterson Vineyard, on Bradford Mountain in northwest Dry Creek Valley, yields intensely flavored Malbec with great natural acidity from its well-drained, red-clay hillsides. A small block of Petit Verdot sits nearby, and 20% was co-fermented with the Malbec. Fully ripened clusters from the near perfect 2017 vintage were hand harvested and gently crushed to one-ton fermenters. The must was inoculated after two days of cold soaking the berries. Extraction with three punch downs daily continued until the wine was completely dry, at which time it was pressed to 100% French oak, predominantly Francois Freres, for malolactic fermentation. Fourteen months aging in barrel, with quarterly racking, completed the classic Bordeaux-style winemaking utilized in the making of this Malbec. The 2017 Peterson Vineyard Dry Creek Valley Malbec is densely scented with aromas of blueberry, boysenberry and earth, gently massaged with oak spice. Flavors of black cherry and raspberry chime in on the mid-palate, and resolved tannins amply support the lengthy finish. This wine is eminently suited to the table, and pairs especially well with roasted meats and grilled vegetables.

Only 56 cases were produced.