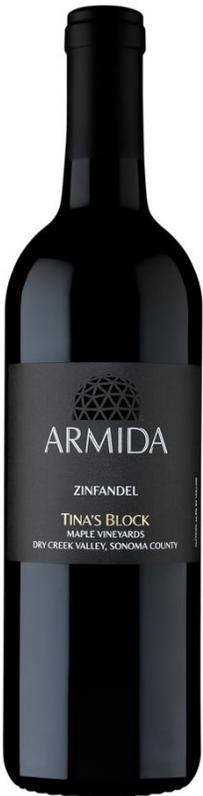




2018 Tina's Block Zinfandel, Maple Vineyards



APPELLATION
Dry Creek Valley
Sonoma County

BLEND
80% Zinfandel
20% Mixed Blacks

ALCOHOL: 14.8%
TA: 7.1 g/L
pH: 3.43
RS: (Dry)
CASES: 407
\$48 Retail

GROW

Maple Vineyards contains 27 acres of exceptional head-trained zinfandel, on the high bench land in the heart of Dry Creek Valley. Tina's Block, is the oldest block in the vineyard being planted in 1910. This 2-acre parcel has records claiming that the block was planted to all Zinfandel, but we know that Tina's Block is currently comprised of at least 20% Mixed Black varietals. Petite Sirah, Carignan, Cinsault, Mission, and Alicante Bouschet are all inter-planted throughout the block giving this wine unique character. David Rafanelli continues traditional, labor intensive, farming techniques today, personally managing the farming as did Tom and Tina Maple before him. The sandy-loam riverbed soil has incredible drainage, allowing all nutrients and rains to reach down to the deep roots. The old-vines aren't irrigated, causing a high level of stress on the vines before harvest, creating small grapes with big flavors, and continues the decades long practice of sustainability for Maple Vineyard.

MAKE

Gently hand harvested early in the morning before being carefully sorted, the grapes were destemmed and carefully transferred to small fermenters. The must was then cold soaked at cold temperatures for five days before the onset of fermentation. Twice daily for the next 15 days the wine was stirred with the skins to extract color, flavors, tannins and texture from the grapes. Once fermentation was complete, only the free-run wine was drained to a separate tank before being transferred into our proprietary mix of French and Hungarian Oak barrels to age for 16 months.

TASTE

Blackberry and plum aromas mix with subtle hints of anise, graham cracker and black currant. The entry is a burst of refreshingly sweet raspberry pie and blueberries balanced with juicy cranberries. The seductive finish has some sandy-textured finish that will continue to soften with aging. The savory and spice flavors of the wine will continue to gain in complexity over the next fifteen years.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

- The "text book" definition of a Dry Creek Valley Zinfandel-based Field Blend
- Dry farmed old vines – deep and concentrated, full bodied and fleshy
- "Old-Vine Field-Blend" adds uniqueness that changes with each vintage



"When I walk through Tina's Block, I still get goose-bumps. The traditions, heritage and history of Dry Creek Valley are magically apparent in this small 2-acre block. Old gnarly Zinfandel vines are interrupted by other grape varietals at every turn. The 20 percent Mixed Blacks cause a bit of hesitation when choosing a harvest date, but with careful attention in the cellar, this wine shows its true character. I'm proud to make wine from this historic block and I'm humbled to be a small blip on Tina's Block's timeline. "

WINEMAKER Brandon Lapides