



MMXII

*el Coco*

**2016 G.B. CRANE VINEYARD EL COCO**

In 1885, Dr. George Beldon Crane planted an assortment of grape vines on an eight-acre plot of land, just south of St. Helena. Today, it is one of the oldest vineyards in the Napa Valley, consisting of a field blend traditionally known as ‘mixed blacks’. Although records are scarce, the vines likely consist of Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Carignan and to a lesser extent, Alicante Bouschet, Mourvedre and Valdiguie.

Of the eight acres currently in production, approximately four contain a mixture of G.B. Crane’s original head trained vines with newer plantings from the 1930s interspersed. The other four acres consist of a 1.6-acre block of Cabernet Sauvignon, a 1.4-acre block of Petite Sirah, and two rows of Merlot. With such a storied history and enormous potential, we purchased the eight-acre vineyard in 2012 with one goal: to preserve this piece of California viticultural history and produce a wine that both represents and respects that heritage.

**Blend Composition**

62% Old Vine Zinfandel, 32% Petite Sirah, 6% Merlot

**Production**

880 cases

**Retail Price**

\$75/bottle

**Tasting Notes**

Decadent and rich, the nose opens with ripe boysenberry, blackberry and dark chocolate with a touch of aromatic nuance—forest floor and a satiating minerality. The entry is expansive and weighty with dark berries, ripe stone fruits, a hint of Bing cherry with a long chain of white pepper. The complex finish is lengthy with soft, supple tannins stemming from the high percentage of new French oak.

Winemaker – Kevin A. Fox