



# PLUMPJACK

WINERY

## 2019 PLUMPJACK SYRAH, NAPA VALLEY

### VINTAGE

Near record rainfall. Late budbreak. Late bloom. Late veraison. Late ripening. For the second vintage in a row, the key to the vintage was patience. The vines emerged from their dormancy later than is typical and they reached all their milestones later as well. As in 2018, it seemed the grapes would never ripen. So, we waited. Then, in early October, everything began to change. The flavors in the grapes grew deeper and richer, the skins began to grow thinner, and the color of the grapes was more easily extracted from the skins. Our patience paid off and the resulting wines are just stunning..

### FERMENTATION & AGING

Fifty-Two percent of our Syrah grapes were destemmed and fermented in stainless steel tanks while 23% was destemmed and fermented in concrete tanks. These grapes were cold-soaked for 4 days, then fermented at a maximum temperature of 92F, and were pressed off the skins after 8-10 days. The remaining 25% was whole-cluster fermented in open-top tanks and barrels. These grapes were fermented at a maximum temperature of 87F, and the wine was pressed off the skins after 6 – 9 days.

After pressing, the wine was transferred to French Oak Burgundy barrels where it underwent malolactic fermentation. The wine was kept on heavy lees for several months and was stirred once each month during this time. The coopers used in this wine include Francois Freres, Meyrieux, and Sirugue, of which, 73% were new barrels. The wine was aged in these barrels for 16 months prior to bottling.

### WINEMAKER IMPRESSIONS

This Syrah is truly a wine of place and the character of this wine is dictated by the cooler climate of the Los Carneros growing region. The cooler weather helps the Syrah to fully develop ripe fruit character while retaining freshness and incredible spice. The nose on the 2019 PlumpJack Syrah opens up with a range of fresh berries – blackberry, blueberry, boysenberry, and cranberry. Just behind the fruit is beautiful warming spice – cardamom, cinnamon, and nutmeg – along with black and white peppercorn. There are additional layers of more earthy notes – damp soil, crushed granite, and cured tobacco. The palate is full-bodied, with a round, silky texture that is beautifully framed by firm yet supple tannin. This is a beautiful and complex wine.



VARIETALS/BLEND 100% Syrah

PRODUCTION 1,084 cases

ALCOHOL 15.2%

92 POINTS  
*Robert Parker*