



LISA PERROTTI-BROWN

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2017 Amapola Creek Chardonnay Jos. Belli Vineyards – 92-94 Points

A barrel sample, the 2017 Chardonnay Jos. Belli Vineyards has lovely yeasty/toasty scents over a core of white peaches, lemon tart, pineapple and lime leaves with orange blossoms and fresh ginger in the background. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers plenty of rich, ripe stone fruit and tropical scents with a pleasantly oily texture and great length.

2017 Amapola Creek Rose Cuvee – 90 Points

The 2017 Rose Cuvee, composed of 60.5% Grenache, 22.3% Mourvèdre, 14.9% Syrah and 2.3% Viognier, is pale cherry-pink colored with a nose of kirsch, red currant jelly, raspberry leaves, baking spices and white pepper plus a waft of dried herbs. The palate is medium-bodied with wonderful freshness lifting the spicy red berry flavors, finishing long and peppery.

2016 Amapola Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Vineyard – 93-95 Points

A barrel sample composed of 93% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Petit Verdot, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Vineyard is deep garnet-purple in color and gives up notes of crushed blackberries, black plums and cassis with touches of menthol, pencil shavings, cedar chest and forest floor. Full-bodied and laden with cassis and earthy layers, it has a solid frame of firm, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long with a minted lift.

2016 Amapola Creek Cuvee Alis Estate Vineyard – 91-93 Points

A barrel sample composed of 51% Grenache, 19% Syrah, 17% Mourvèdre, 12% Petite Sirah and 1% Viognier, the 2016 Cuvee Alis Estate Vineyard is medium to deep garnet-purple in color and scented of dusty earth, cinnamon stick, black pepper and chargrill with a core of baked red cherries, Black Forest cake and plum preserves plus a touch of lavender. Full-bodied, soft, plush and seductive, it coats the palate with earth and spice-laced black fruits, with just enough freshness to invigorate the long finish.

2016 Amapola Creek Zinfandel Monte Rosso Vineyard – 93 Points

The 2016 Zinfandel Monte Rosso Vineyard is medium garnet-purple in color and opens with notions of raspberry tart, kirsch and red currant jelly with suggestions of tobacco, mossy bark and dusty soil plus a waft of white pepper. Big, concentrated and powerful in the mouth, it has a solid frame of chewy tannins and oodles of freshness, finishing long and earthy.

2016 Amapola Creek Zinfandel Nuns Canyon – 94+ Points

The medium garnet-purple colored 2016 Zinfandel Nuns Canyon reveals beautiful notes of black raspberries, blackberry preserves and mocha with hints of cigar box, new leather and game plus a waft of cloves. The palate is full-bodied and structured by taut, chewy tannins, with a lively line cutting through the concentrated berry preserves and earth layers, finishing long.

2016 Amapola Creek Petite Sirah Monte Rosso Vineyard – 93-95 Points

A barrel sample, the 2016 Petite Sirah Monte Rosso Vineyard is very deep purple-black in color and gives intensely scented, fragrant notes of violets and crushed black cherries with hints of tilled earth, garrigue, rose hip tea, spice box and sautéed herbs. A compelling behemoth of a wine in the mouth with BIG everything: fruit, spices, tannins and freshness, finishing firm with loads of layers.

2015 Amapola Creek Cuvee Alis Estate Vineyard – 92 Points

Composed of 53% Grenache, 17% Syrah, 13% Mourvèdre, 16% Petite Sirah and 1% Viognier, the deep garnet-purple colored 2015 Cuvee Alis Estate Vineyard has quite a broody nose of coffee grounds, tilled soil and truffles over a core of preserved plums, blackberry pie and chocolate box with a touch of incense. Full-bodied, rich and opulent in the mouth, it displays tons of exotic spice and berry preserves layers with fantastic freshness, finishing long and spicy.

2015 Amapola Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Vineyard – 94 Points

Blended of 93% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Vineyard offers pronounced black currants, black cherries and wild blueberry scents with hints of mulberries, Chinese five spice, tilled soil, bay leaves and tapenade. Very big, concentrated and powerful in the mouth, it completely coats the palate with black fruits and savory layers, supported by firm, grainy tannins and seamless freshness, finishing with great persistence.

2015 Amapola Creek Zinfandel Monte Rosso Vineyard – 93 Points

The medium garnet-purple colored 2015 Zinfandel Monte Rosso Vineyard gives up notes of baked plums and blueberry compote with touches of black raspberries, fallen leaves and spice box plus touches of unsmoked cigars and garrigue. Full-bodied and packing tons of spicy red berry preserves and earthy layers, it has a firm frame of chewy tannins and great freshness, finishing long.

2015 Amapola Creek Petite Sirah Monte Rosso Vineyard – 93+ Points

Very deep purple-black in color, the 2015 Petite Sirah Monte Rosso Vineyard is a little youthfully muted, offering crushed blackcurrants and mulberries scents with touches of incense, fragrant earth and baking spices plus a touch of dried flowers. Full-bodied and concentrated, it delivers a wall of black fruits with a taut frame of chewy tannins and plenty of freshness, finishing long and earthy.

2014 Amapola Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Vineyard – 94 Points

A blend of 93% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Petit Verdot, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Vineyard is deep garnet-purple colored and displays alluring chocolate box and licorice scents over a core of crème de cassis, sandalwood, black soil and plum preserves with touches of potpourri and dried herbs. Full-bodied, concentrated and packed to the gills with ripe, rich black fruits, it has a firm, grainy frame and just enough freshness, finishing long and spicy.