VINEYARDS
Our Small Berry Mourvèdre grows in a very special small block at Big Break Vineyard that consistently produces one of our most complex and concentrated Mourvèdres. The vineyard is bordered by Eucalyptus trees which gives the wine a signature minty note. The vines in this block are over 100 years old and planted on their own roots, making this one of California’s most historic vineyards. The vines have survived on their own roots because they grow in sand which keeps the phylloxera root louse in check. We dry farm these ancient, head-pruned vines, continuing a practice employed by the Italian and Portuguese immigrants who planted this vineyard before the turn of the last century.

FERMENTATION & AGING
The grapes were hand-harvested and treated gently in the cellar to emphasize the explosive fruit characteristics. The grapes were almost entirely de-stemmed and lightly crushed with a large proportion of whole berries remaining in the must. Fermentation occurred at moderate temperatures in stainless steel tanks. The wine was pressed when it neared dryness and racked to another settling tank before moving to barrels. The wine was aged for 12 months on French oak - using medium toast levels, providing complex flavors of oak without overpowering the exotic character of this Mourvèdre.

WINEMAKER’S NOTES
This vineyard has always shown intense concentration of flavors due, in part, to the small yield that we receive. The ’15 harvest was small in yield and the fruit was very intense. This wine has a silky texture with notes of plum and eucalyptus-mint.

TECHNICAL DATA
Harvest Date: ................................................. August 19
Alcohol:............................................................. 15.5%
Brix at Harvest:.................................................... 26.7°
Total Acidity: ................................................69g/100ml
Final pH: .............................................................. 3.4
Residual Sugar:..................................................... .36%
Oak .............................................French, Medium Toast
Oak Aging: ................................................... 12 Months