

# ADELAIDA

## ZINFANDEL

MICHAEL'S VINEYARD, ADELAIDA DISTRICT - PASO ROBLES  
2015

AROMA	Briar patch, fresh picked raspberries, Grandfather's pipe tobacco, pink peppercorns
FLAVOR	Wild mountain berries, sweet/tart lingonberries, mocha, brown spices, peppercorn dust
FOOD PAIRINGS	Sweet Italian sausages with penne pasta and grated Romano, braised short-ribs, pulled rotisserie chicken sandwiches with Carolina BBQ and cole slaw
VINEYARD DETAILS	Michael's Vineyard   1580 - 1735 feet Calcareous Limestone Soil

Adelaida's distinct family-owned vineyards lie in the craggy hillside terrain of Paso Robles' Adelaida District, 14 miles from the Pacific coast. Ranging from 1400 - 2000 feet in elevation these low yielding vines are challenged by chalky limestone soils and afternoon blasts of cool marine air, and a diurnal temperature swing of 40-50 degrees.

Michaels Vineyard is a labor of love. After two decades of sourcing fruit from local growers, we were able to obtain cuttings from the two oldest vineyards in Paso Robles (90 and 100 years old) which were then propagated in a commercial nursery and subsequently planted in 2003 on a wave of hills. These "Mother" plants offered superior raw material, known as Heritage clones. Dry farmed and head trained, these vines look more like a random collection of bushes.

Harvested between 8/26-9/10 in the cool predawn hours, the fruit was hand sorted, destemmed, and individual berries are optically sorted to eliminate raisins and shot berries. Small batch fermentation on indigenous yeast is followed by an extended period of skin contact then 14 months in a mix of new and neutral oak barrels. Youthfully shy, a bit of aeration reveals notes of sweet pipe tobacco and juicy flavors of ripe blue and red berries, anise and mild peppercorns. More a statement of freshness than porty over-extraction the wine delivers a mouthful of piquant just-picked raspberries. At its best now through 2022.

92 Points Doug Wilder—PDWR

91 Points Josh Reynolds -Vinous



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VARIETAL	Zinfandel 100%	COOPERAGE	14 months in 90% French oak barrels (17% new), 7% Hungarian, and 1% American Barrels
ALCOHOL	15.5 %	RELEASE	April 2017
CASES	852	RETAIL	\$40.00

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