

WAYPOINT

2016 Waypoint Cabernet Sauvignon “Tierra Buena” Spring Mountain

A waypoint is an intermediate point or place on a route or line of travel. In modern terms, it most often refers to coordinates which specify one’s position on the globe. In the wine world, one’s waypoint tells a unique story of time and place in the glass.

Waypoint was born out of the idea of spotlighting single-vineyard properties, throughout California, to highlight the unique terroir and characteristics of each of these singular plots of dirt. Between Pinot Noir, Cabernet, Merlot, and Petit Verdot, Waypoint was one of the first brands in California to place an emphasis on sourcing fruit from one specific locale and giving it the credit it was due.

A wonderful exercise in sourcing fruit from infamous plots, Waypoint enables us to dig deep into our rolodex to find fruit from unique places that deserve a little more attention. It all starts with fantastic vineyards and folks who farm the right way. There are plenty of important decisions that follow, but ultimately, it’s about letting the wines speak for themselves rather than digging into the winemaking bag of tricks. Single-vineyard wines need to stand on their own merit. Waypoint harnesses that belief with both hands and lets the vineyard and corresponding wine do all the talking.

Tasting Notes

This beauty comes from a historic vineyard on Spring Mountain, first planted in the 1880s, though the most recent plantings are now over 20 years old. The most important thing about the soils on Spring Mountain is that they are residual upland soils. These soils are not deep, they are not rich, and they are generally more stressful to the vine. These soils limit growth and root structure so the vines put their heart and soul into each grape. Look for notes of cassis liqueur, cocoa, bay leaf, graphite, and forest floor, all overlaying a structured, concentrated red that will age 10 years handily.

