

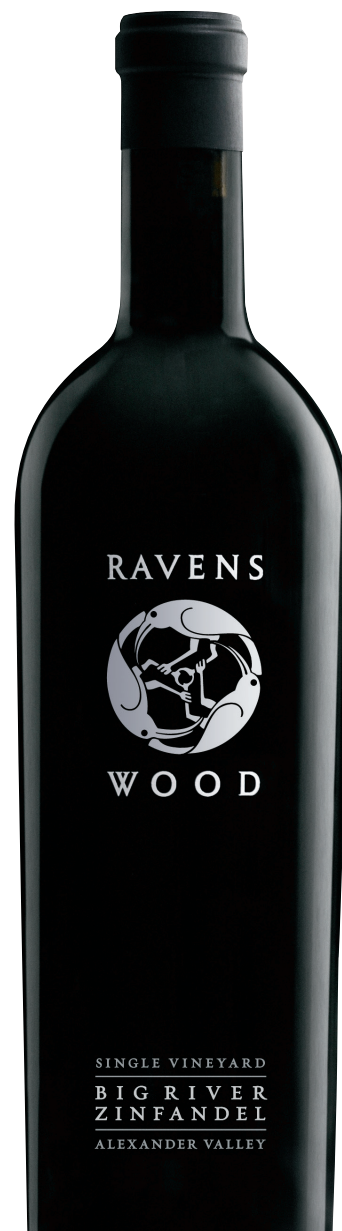
# RAVENSWOOD BIG RIVER ZINFANDEL

## SINGLE VINEYARD *Designate '16*

**THE VINEYARD:** When Scott and Lynn Adams got married, they organized a celebratory bike ride with friends in the Alexander and Dry Creek Valleys. They instantly became interested in wine and began taking wine education classes at the University of California Extension, coming to the conclusion that their favorite varietal was Zinfandel. Around the same time, Scott's father happened to mention he was in the market for vineyard property, leading Scott to scour Sonoma County for old Zinfandel vines. Most seemed the worse for wear, until he discovered a 14-acre, 100-year-old vineyard straddling the Alexander Valley and Russian River appellations. The Adamses bought the vineyard, named it Big River, and are now staunch members of the local wine community with a winery of their own.

**LOCATION:** Straddling the Alexander Valley and Russian River appellations, the spot seems to have the benefit of both: A moderating riparian influence tempers the site's fog-free warmth, and looming Fitch Mountain shields the vineyard from westerly winds.

**FLAVOR PROFILE:** The 2016 Big River Vineyard Zinfandel is big, round, and jammy, filled with raspberry, plum, black cherry, plenty of spice, and just a hint of dill. Supple texture is the hallmark of this weighty wine.



**APPELLATION:** Alexander Valley

**ACREAGE:** 14 acres

**YEAR PLANTED:** Around 1893

**SOIL TYPE:** Manzanita soil; old, volcanic, cobbly red clay loam

**CLIMATE:** High bench, above fog line, with cooling late-afternoon breezes

**ELEVATION:** About 500 feet

**EXPOSURE:** On a knoll, mostly gentle slope to the west, but some southern, some northern exposure

**ROOTSTOCK:** St. George

**COMPOSITION:** 100% Zinfandel

**FERMENTATION:** Native yeast fermentation in small open-top fermenters, manual punchdowns, 11 days skin contact

**AGING:** 19 months in French oak barrels, 40% new

**TA:** 6.0 g/L

**pH:** 3.63

**ALCOHOL:** 15.3%

**AGEABILITY:** Drink between now and 7–10 years