

MARAUDER

2015 DARK ARTS | Kick Ranch Vineyard, Sonoma Valley



WAYPOINT

GRAPE VARIETY(S): 50% PETITE SIRAH | 50% SYRAH

A bold, dark and brawny beauty produced from a blend of Syrah and Petite Sirah. The grapes are farmed on the Kick Ranch Vineyard, located in Sonoma County's Rincon Valley, northeast of Santa Rosa. Kick Ranch harkens back to an important pioneer history in Sonoma County dating back to its establishment in the mid 1800's by the Fulkerson family. The ranch still consists of 312 acres, with twenty-five acres of vineyard and a few acres in a general variety orchard. Dick Keenan and Kathy McNamara, early investors in Rosenblum Cellars, purchased the land and re-developed it as "Kick Ranch" in 2000. They chose the name "Kick Ranch" as a play on their names and a fun nod to the Clydesdale horse ranch adjacent to the ranch. Its hillside site is on the western side of the northern flank of Spring Mountain, which separates Sonoma and Napa Counties. The vineyard soils have a mix of volcanic rock that contributes a rich minerality to wines. We named this wine "Dark Arts" for the mystery and art of crafting red blends to perfection.

"I have always sought the unconventional path in my craft. Perhaps my want for exploration can be traced to my Scandinavian bloodline and the ancestral lineage of fearless frontiersmen. Marauder charts the unknown course in winemaking, breaking the mold of tradition, producing bold, uncommon wines "

Kirk P. Venge

LOGBOOK

An endeavor to produce the uniquely profound in wine is always fraught with challenges, such as location, vintage variation, farming and production method, and patience through handling. What we have manifest in producing our **2015 Dark Arts** is an interactive harmony of power and balance. A playfully devious and witty winemaking spirit pervades every corner of this wine, as the senses are struck by a velvet glove of black ink and purple wow! Concentrated scents of mocha-berry madness and splashes of blue herbs lead to succulent deliciousness causing one to give pause to creative genius. Enjoy now through 2026.

BIO & PRODUCT ESSENTIALS

Kirk P. Venge

Proprietor & Winemaker | Born 1976, Rutherford CA
Earliest Childhood Memory | Tractor Rides In The Vineyards

Method | 100% Gravity Flow to Concrete Fermentors Utilizing
100% Native Yeast Primary and Secondary Fermentations
Oak Regimen | 60% New, 40% Used, Medium+ French Oak
Aging | 18 Months
Production | 100 Cases