

# MARAUDER

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2016 UNDERTOW | Mahoney Ranch Vineyard, Los Carneros, Napa Valley



## WAYPOINT

GRAPE VARIETY(S): 95% Vermentino, 5% Sauvignon Musqué

Vermentino is commonly thought to be Spanish in origin. Although it is currently grown in several countries around the Mediterranean, its best known examples come from northern Italy (particularly in the region of Liguria) and the island of Sardinia, where the wines are crisp, citrusy and generally unoaked. It is also the most widely planted white grape on the island of Corsica, where high altitude and hot climate vineyards produce more full-bodied wines with heady floral aromas. On the French mainland (where the grape is known as *Rolle*), it is found in Côtes de Provence and, increasingly, in Languedoc. Although it makes excellent wine, for many years Vermentino was best known for producing table grapes. The grapes are large with a good sugar/acid balance, making them a perfect choice for summer outings and aperitif presentations. We chose the Mahoney Ranch Vineyard in Los Carneros, Napa Valley, to source Vermentino. This location sits at the cusp of San Pablo Bay, where clay and limestone soils, along with the coldest environment in the Appellation, lead to a compelling outcome of the variety. In an effort to build aromatic diversity and broader mouthfeel in the finished wine, we blend in 5% Sauvignon Blanc Musqué and age in three year old, neutral French oak barrels, for approximately 7 months.

“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

Once the current of creativity has its hold on you, the vortex of movement toward a destination acts as force not to be resisted, but embraced with wild-eyed abandon. It is this undertow of fascination that manifests our production of **2016 Undertow**. This wine is a shifting mass of whirling deliciousness that takes the consumer deep into the maelstrom of contemplation. It is bright and flashy, yet bearing significant structure not normally found in most renditions of Vermentino. Crisp, refreshing, citrus-leaf and fresh herb aromatics lead the way to subtle minerality, a spiral of green apple, ripe lime, and island ripe mango, encapsulated in a dry, medium bodied finish.

## BIO & PRODUCT ESSENTIALS

Kirk P. Venge

Proprietor & Winemaker | Born 1976, Rutherford CA

Earliest Childhood Memory | Tractor Rides In The Vineyards

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Method | 100% Whole Cluster Press, Stainless Fermentors Utilizing 100% Native Yeast Primary and Secondary Fermentations

Oak Regimen | 100% Used Neutral French Oak

Aging | 7 Months

Production | 275 Cases