



## 2017 *The Bear*

### Fenaughty & Lightner Vineyards

#### El Dorado

Making wine is the most humbling and magical of endeavors. Wines provide a voice for the connection between the earth, the vine and the elements. The Bear is the voice for the Fenaughty & Lightner Vineyards, as told through the Rhône varietals that led us to the Sierras in 2003. There we met Ron Mansfield and began planting grapes like Cinsault and Counoise to lend depth and soul to our blends.

Appellation: El Dorado

Vineyard: Fenaughty & Lightner

Varietal: Counoise, Cinsault, Mourvèdre, Grenache, Syrah, Roussanne, Viognier

Elevation: 2700-2900 ft.

Soil: Decomposed granite w/ red clay loam

Harvested: September 13-24, 2017

Crushed: September 13 & 24, 2017

Pressed: September 20 & 25 & October 10, 2017

Fermentation: Wild yeasts & bacteria in concrete & wood vats

Blend: Counoise, Cinsault, Mourvèdre, Grenache, Syrah, Roussanne, Viognier

Barrel aging: 10.5 months in mix of once used and

Neutral French oak barrels

Bottled: Unfiltered on August 10, 2018

Production: 268 cases

Release date: Fall 2019



#### **Tasting Note:**

*A complex and pretty wine fit for a forest dweller! Off the nose, you'll find the scent of black plum skins, wet soil, and apple blossoms. On the palate, you may taste the freshness of orange zest, wild mulberries, just-ripened blackberries, and a touch of clove and black tea. Ready to drink, but has the potential to also age elegantly if you are patient. Pair with some BBQ chicken or grilled salmon if you're feeling bear-like.*