



100 Points

USA, Northern California, Napa Valley: 2016 & 2017
A Tale of Two Vintages



...and more by the very talented winemaker Bibiana González Rave. 2016 was her first vintage making Pahlmeyer's Napa Valley wines.

Pahlmeyer Reviews by Lisa Perrotti Brown. Mid-October 2018 New Releases.

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2016 Pahlmeyer Cabernet Sauvignon Raison D'Etire

100

The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Raison D'Etire is a barrel selection wine, made entirely from estate fruit and bottled in late May 2018. Composed of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Cabernet Franc and 1% Merlot, it's deep garnet-purple in color and features a beguiling array of black berry, black cherry, warm blueberry and cassis notes with sparks of cigar box, wood smoke, charcuterie and Chinese five spice notes plus a touch of dried Mediterranean herbs. Full, rich, concentrated and seductive in the mouth, the juxtaposition between the firm, superbly ripe, velvety frame, fantastic freshness and the depth of fruit is just incredible! It finishes multilayered and so compelling you will be reaching for that glass as soon as you put it down.

2016 Pahlmeyer Cabernet Sauvignon Piece de Resistance

97+

A barrel selection wine bottled in late May 2018 and composed of 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Piece de Resistance is deep garnet-purple colored and opens with a core of cassis, ripe plums, blackberry preserves and chargrill with touches of wild sage, forest floor, cedar chest, fertile loam and tapenade. The palate is full-bodied and packed with black fruit and savory layers, with a ripe, firm, grainy backbone and a very long, mineral-tinged finish.

2016 Pahlmeyer Proprietary Red Wine

96+

Composed of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot and 2% Malbec, the deep garnet-purple colored 2016 Proprietary Red Wine gives up bold notes of fresh blackcurrants, black cherries and wild blueberries with hints of cigar box, tilled soil, dried bay leaves and smoked meats plus a hint of lavender. Medium-bodied and fantastically intense in the mouth, it has a wonderful core of muscular fruit and a firm, ripe, fine-grained frame to match, finishing very long.

2016 Pahlmeyer Chardonnay

95

The 2016 Chardonnay has a lovely savory, yeasty/toasty nose over a core of warm grapefruit, fresh apricots and allspice with a touch of candied ginger. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers mouth-filling stone fruit and spicy layers, supported by great freshness and finishing long and creamy.

2016 Pahlmeyer Chardonnay Savoir Faire

95

Bottled in March 2018, the 2016 Chardonnay Savoir Faire features a gregarious nose of green mangoes, yuzu zest, lemongrass and lime leaves over a core of pink grapefruit, nectarines and Bosc pears plus a waft of lightly browned toast. Medium-bodied, it fills the palate with creamy stone fruit and pears notions, lifted by a lively line and finishing on an almondy note.

2016 Pahlmeyer Merlot

93+

A blend of 97% Merlot, 2% Malbec and 1% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2016 Merlot is very deep garnet-purple colored and offers exuberant notions of crushed red and black plums, warm blackberries and Indian spices with hints of cardamom, sautéed herbs, garrigue and dusty soil. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers mouth-filling plum-laced flavors with a velvety frame and loads of freshness on the long, spicy finish.