

# WESTERN RESERVE WINES CLUB SEPTEMBER 2023

**WINE: Rodney Strong Symmetry 2017 Red**

**VARIETALS:** 69% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
12% Malbec, 12% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot,  
3% Cabernet Franc



**Viticulture Area: Sonoma County, California**

**Bottle Price: \$52.99 Case Price (6-Pk): \$286.15 plus tax**

## INTRODUCTION

Our story begins over 60 years ago, when a celebrated American dancer named Rod Strong settled in Sonoma County to pursue a second lifelong creative passion: winemaking. Rodney Strong Vineyards was the 13th winery bonded in the newly discovered Sonoma County wine industry. A trio of winemaking paths crossed when Rick Sayre joined the team as Winemaker in 1979, and again when the Klein Family, 4th generation California farmers, purchased the winery in 1989 and initiated a renewed commitment of modern artisan winemaking. Through the years, Rodney Strong Vineyards has earned the reputation for critically acclaimed Single Vineyard and Reserve wines, stand out Estate releases and best-in-class Sonoma County varietal wines.

## REGION

In California's Wine Country region, which also includes Napa, Mendocino, and Lake counties, Sonoma County is the largest producer. It has thirteen approved American Viticultural Areas and more than 350 wineries. The voters have twice approved open space initiatives that have provided funding for public acquisition of natural areas, preserving forested areas, coastal habitat, and other open space. More than 8.4 million tourists visit each year, spending more than \$1 billion in 2016.

In 2012, Sonoma County ranked as the 22nd county in the United States in agricultural production. By 1920, Sonoma County was ranked as the eighth most agriculturally productive U.S. county and a leading producer of hops, grapes, prunes, apples, as well as dairy and poultry products, largely due to the extent of available, fertile agricultural land in addition to the abundance of high-quality water for irrigation. As of 2009, agriculture was largely divided between two nearly monocultural uses: grapes and pasturage.



### SYMMETRY VINEYARDS

45% Cooley  
30% Brothers  
25% Rockaway

## PRODUCER

The 2017 vintage will not be soon forgotten. The all-time precipitation record was set by mid-April as rain swept like waves over the North Coast, filling all the lakes, ponds and reservoirs. As the rain clouds subsided and the sun appeared, the vineyards in Sonoma County endured six different heat waves at or above 100F including a memorable 110F on Labor Day. We harvested the fruit from September 16th - October 13th to make this beautiful red wine.

Symmetry is, at its heart, an artfully blended wine. It is also a wine from a specific region, the Alexander Valley, and part of our goal when making Symmetry is to capture the essence of this AVA. The precise blend will vary each vintage, but with over 40 years of experience growing classic French grape varieties in Alexander Valley, only the best is selected for the final blend. The name "Symmetry" means balance, and our winemakers' ultimate goal is to craft a blend that is harmonious, intensely flavored and elegant.

Cellar & Fermentation: 24 months in French oak barrels, 75% new

### *Tasting Notes:*

The 2017 Symmetry has luxurious aromas of red fruit, plum, vanilla, dusty oak, and dried fruit which unfold on the palate with silky layers of dark fruits, baking spices and a supple, rich mouthfeel. This wine is harmonious and elegant with refined tannins and a long, lingering finish.

### *Food Suggestions:*

Enjoy this wine now with beef stew, grilled pork tenderloin or an assortment of roasted vegetables, or cellar for enjoyment for years to come.

***Jeb Dunnuck 91 POINTS:** The 2017 Symmetry has a darker fruited, pepper, herbal style offering nicely integrated oak and cedar notes, medium-bodied richness, some firmer tannins, and rock-solid overall balance. It shows lots of classic Sonoma Cabernet character and has loads to love. It too should keep for over a decade and will probably benefit from short-term cellaring.*

***Remember We Taste The Bad Ones So you don't have to! CHEERS!!!***

### **Sources:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonoma\\_County,\\_California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonoma_County,_California)

<https://www.rodneystrong.com/our-wines/>

**WESTERN RESERVE WINES**  
**28300 MILES ROAD SUITE B**  
**SOLON, OHIO 44139 (440) 498-9463 (WINE)**  
**WesternReserveWines.com**  
**Info@WesternReserveWines.com**

