



# Cima Collina

- MONTEREY COUNTY -  
CHOLAME TEMPRANILLO  
2015

**VINEYARD NOTES** - This vineyard is located in the most southern outpost of Monterey County in the Cholame Valley near Parkfield, California and is almost 2,000 feet in elevation. It is dry (they get an average of 14 inches of rain a year but in the last few years have barely received any) and hot in the summers but can also experience a big diurnal shift between daytime highs and nighttime lows. The soil is calcareous/shaley loam. All of this amounts to a perfectly challenging place to grow grapes that like living on the edge of things.

Tempranillo prefers the edge, apparently. The environment in Cholame is very similar to the environments of Spain and Portugal where Tempranillo has been grown historically. In that Mediterranean climate there is also a large diurnal shift in temperature which allows the flavors of the grape to develop in the cooler nighttime but the heat creates color in the thick skins of the grape.

**WINEMAKING NOTES** - We received 1.2 tons on September 1, 2015 in what was an early harvest throughout California. We destemmed most of the fruit into fermentation bins and it was punched down by hand during fermentation. It was then pressed and settled-out in a tank before racking to a used French Oak puncheon and barrel where it aged for 10 months. We bottled 77 cases on August 19, 2016. It is 100% Tempranillo.

**WINE STYLE**- The color is a rich deep purple. Plum, black cherry, fennel and baking spices dominate the aromas. It is mouthfilling and rich (despite the 12.5% alcohol!) but is balanced with a bright acidity. This is an amazing and versatile food wine that could be paired with anything from al pastor tacos to barbeque, ratatouille to braised lamb shanks.

**APPELLATION**

Monterey County

**VINEYARD DESIGNATION**

Cholame Vineyard

**VARIETALS**

100% Tempranillo

**AGING**

10 Months in French Oak Barrels

**ALCOHOL**

12.5%

**BOTTLED**

August 2016

**WINEMAKER**

Annette Hoff Danzer

**SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE**

\$38

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