

TURLEY

2017 Turley “Mead Ranch,” Zinfandel, Atlas Peak

Planted at about 1600 feet atop Atlas Peak on the south-eastern side of Napa Valley, Mead was originally planted in the 1880s. Our head-trained block is primarily from the 1970s; right in the fog, this is generally the last of our Napa vineyards to ripen each year.

This is the second-to-last vintage of Turley’s Mead, so if this is a favorite, you may want to stock up. Of all the spring wines we tasted, the ’17 Mead is the most dramatically expressive right off the bat: high-toned, wild red fruits like fraise du bois or a raspberry patch come to mind, along with cracked black pepper and fragrant herbs. Yields were miniscule, with less than a ton to the acre, and this is reflected in the typically dense mountain tannins.



Mead Ranch Vineyard, Atlas Peak, Napa