

2021 HERITAGE VINES ZINFANDEL

Sonoma County



HISTORY

The development of the Heritage Clone was initiated in 1982 to preserve the tradition and "heritage" of old Zinfandel vineyards. Cuttings from a pre-Prohibition era vineyard were grafted onto phylloxera-resistant rootstock. Then, for several years we worked diligently to screen and propagate virus-free vines that would ultimately produce a crop. Finally, in 1997 the process concluded with a "young vine" wine with "old vine" Zinfandel characteristics, reminiscent of turn-of-the-century heirloom vines. Today, Heritage Vines Zinfandel represents the standard for delicious, well-balanced Zinfandel from Sonoma County.

GROWING SEASON

The 2021 growing season was moderate and consistent, with more typical start and end dates for our $50^{\rm th}$ harvest. Due to drought conditions we saw less shoot growth, so we gave the vines extra care and attention when managing canopies and crop loads. The shorter shoots, combined with a below average fruit set, led to our yield being down across the harvest compared to last year's. However, the quality was very high overall!

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The 2021 Heritage Vines Zinfandel is flavorful and wonderfully integrated. This vintage presents alluring aromatics of black cherry, boysenberry and plum with nuances of warm spices, mocha and white pepper. On the palate, brambly flavors of dark berries come forward. The wine is complex, with bright acidity complimented by deeper notes of cedar, fine leather and dark brown sugar. From start to finish, this remarkable wine offers refreshing acidity paired with excellent structure.

BLEND

80% Zinfandel 19% Petite Sirah 1% Carignane

FERMENTATION

11–17 days in fermenters at 82–88°F; pumped over twice daily

BARREL AGING

15 months in American, Hungarian, and French oak; 24% new oak

ALCOHOL | 14.5%

BRIX | 24.6

PH | 3.58

TA | 6.3 g/L

HARVEST DATES

August 26-October 19, 2021

VINE AGE | 22–110 years

SOILS

Hillside & benchland, clay loam

YIELDS

3-6 tons per acre