

2020 Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard Zinfandel

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The electric color immediately tempts and lures in the senses. Deep and brooding, the aromas convey notes of boysenberry and blackberry pie along with highlights of raspberry compote and other red fruits. Complexed with notes of anise and fennel, the nose offers a kaleidoscope of aromas. Tannic and mouth coating, the palate offers a dense and compact wine with refreshing acidity to create a harmony that is unparalleled for Zinfandel. These century old vines are a testament to what monumental wines can be achieved.

THE VINEYARD

Planted in 1890, this organically grown, dry-farmed vineyard is located near the town of Fulton in the Russian River Valley. The vineyard is mostly Zinfandel, but is also interplanted with a small percentage of Alicante Bouchet and Petite Sirah.

HARVEST 2020

The 2020 growing season started out very dry and bud break was delayed. Early spring rains recharged the soil profile, but periods of extreme cold caused many frost events throughout the Russian River Valley. Late spring yielded ample sunshine and moderate temperatures, and the plants responded very well with excellent canopy growth. The season ended up approximately 12% warmer than average and did not have any heat spikes until August. Harvest started in haste on August 12, ahead of an extreme heat wave. On the night of August 17, the weather changed and there was a rare dry lightning storm that sparked a fire on a hillside in remote west Sonoma County; later named the Walbridge Fire. In the Russian River Valley, it took a number of days for smoke to settle. Based on test results for smoke taint on the grapes, several coastal vineyards were not picked. For the vineyards which were picked, either before the fire or before the smoke settled, the result was concentrated wines with a darker, more brooding complexion. The polish of the tannin, coupled with excellent concentration, should allow for a wide drinking window.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 34% new, 33% 1 yr., 33% 2 yr.

Barrel Aged: 13 months

pH: 3.41

TA: 0.64g/100mL

Alc: 14.9%

Released Spring 2022

\$65

