

2021 Papera Vineyard Zinfandel

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The distinctive aromatic profile of blackberry and brambles permeates the nose and is leavened with a red currant undertone. Purple flowers add a wonderful highlight to the complex aromatics. Zesty and refreshing on the palate, the Papera Vineyard Zinfandel showcases black fruit flavors along with citrus peel and a finish of cocoa nibs. A terrific pairing with richer dishes due to the wonderful acid freshness.

THE VINEYARD

Papera is an old vine Zinfandel vineyard, located on the eastern side of the Laguna de Santa Rosa in the Russian River Valley appellation. Planted in 1934, the vines are head-trained and primarily dry farmed.

HARVEST 2021

The 2021 growing season experienced only about 14 inches of rain, challenging the plants from the outset of the year. Late winter and early spring were cold and dry, bringing some uneven growth and stress to the plants. The canopies were a little smaller than average going into the flowering, however the weather was ideal and mild. Flowering determines quality and quantity, so it is the most important time. The 2021 season yielded an average to slightly below average crop size with outstanding quality. Largely, the growing season saw mild temperatures but with several scattered heat events. 2021 thankfully saw the return of the fog, which saved the vintage by keeping the nighttime temperatures cool, refreshing the plants, and keeping them hydrated under severe conditions. Due to the changing climate, fog intrusion has been minimal the last few vintages. The 2021 season finished up around the historical average for temperatures. Despite the inauspicious start to the year, the wines showcase terrific verve, character, and site specificity.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 29% new, 24% 1 yr., 29% 2 yr., 18% 3+ yr. Barrel Aged: 13 months pH: 3.41 TA: 0.72g/100mL Alc: 15.2% Released Spring 2023 \$70



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