



2021 Saitone Estate Vineyard Zinfandel

WINEMAKER NOTES

Boysenberry and brambles best describe this 1895 planting of Zinfandel. Layered into the dark fruit character are hints of red raspberry, pomegranate, citrus, and fennel pollen. In the mouth, crunchy red fruit character creates an edginess to the wine owing to the robust tannin and vibrant acidity. A surprising lift of lavender in the mid-palate peeks out and then the wine finishes with elegance and poise.

THE VINEYARD

Planted in 1895, this vineyard is in the heart of old-vine Zinfandel country on Olivet Road in the Russian River Valley. Planted to mostly Zinfandel, there are some mixed varieties interspersed in the vineyard.

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: 27% new, 27% 1 yr., 23% 2 yr., 23% 3+ yr.

Barrel Aged: 14 months

pH: 3.34

TA: 0.72g/100mL

Alc: 15.2%

Released Fall 2023

\$70

