

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2023 Belloni Vineyard Zinfandel

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The Belloni Vineyard is an exciting new release from vines planted around 1900 that still produce magnificent fruit. Situated in a prime location on Wood Road in the town of Fulton, Belloni is among the great old vineyards in Sonoma County. Planted to mostly Zinfandel, this is a classic field blend with Alicante Bouchet, Carignan, Petite Sirah, and many other varieties interspersed in the field. Made famous by Joel Peterson and Ravenswood, this wine is a classic, with black fruit character on the nose and highlights of poached stone fruit, anise, and wood spices. Owing to the diversity in the field, the wine showcases a multifaceted and complex aroma and palate. Black fruit flavors give way to earthy and five-spice notes. The concentration is compelling and is highlighted with refined tannin and well-balanced acidity that exudes elegance. A serious Zinfandel from a classic site that is sure to wow.

HARVEST 2023

We experienced a welcome sense of normality in 2023, after tumultuous weather patterns during previous growing seasons, including drought conditions, heat events, and hail. This vintage began auspiciously with historical average rainfall and modest temperatures at the start of bud break. Ample sunshine and early heat resulted in even growth of the canopies, creating uniformity and balance as the vines entered the flowering cycle. While it was similarly cool at the outset of 2011, the 2023 heat units built slowly, and the weather was ideal by May. The flowering period was quick, and the fruit set bountiful. The weather was perfect in June and July, with a few heat spikes that kept the plants healthy and sustained. Mid-season crop adjustments were necessary to ensure good vine balance as veraison approached. With the cooler start to the vintage and the normal fog pattern of August, the ripening cycle slowed, and the crop achieved ideal hang time for tannin development at modest sugars. Across the board, the wines exhibit terrific purity of character with excellent tannin resolution. While hot and dry years can create wines of shocking intensity, these cooler vintages showcase the elegant style of Williams Selyem.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 24% new, 23% 1 yr., 23% 2 yr., 30% 3+ yr.

Barrel Aged: 13 months

pH: 3.42

TA: 0.62g/100mL

Alc: 15.1%

Released 2025

