

2023 Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard Zinfandel

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Right off the bat, this wine's vibrant violet-red hue hints that it is destined to be a standout! Spice notes of sassafras and nutmeg complement bright boysenberry and stone fruit aromas. The Fanucchi-Wood Road Zinfandel has racy acidity that is balanced by concentrated, polished tannins. Sourced from the remarkable 133-year-old vineyard on Wood Road, this wine is beautiful upon release but has qualities that will support many years of cellaring.

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 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: 38% new, 25% 1 yr., 13% 2 yr., 24% 3+ yr.

Barrel Aged: 13 months

pH: 3.34

TA: 0.68g/100mL

Alc: 14.8% Released 2025

