



2023 Saitone Estate Vineyard Zinfandel

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Brambles and boysenberry immediately jump from the glass in this old vine classic. Planted in 1895, the Saitone Vineyard epitomizes Russian River Valley from the Piner-Olivet region with dark fruits, tangy acidity, and an unrivaled depth of flavor and complexity. Hints of lavender add another layer to this kaleidoscope. The tannins are robust but polished in classic Williams Selyem style. A serious Zinfandel that can be paired with a wide array of robust foods.

THE VINEYARD

Planted in 1895, Saitone 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 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: 23% new, 18% 1yr., 18% 2 yr., 41% 3+ yr.

Barrel Aged: 13 months

pH: 3.34

TA: 0.69g/100mL

Alc: 15.2%

Released 2025

