

B CELLARS
[NOTES FROM THE CELLAR]

Zinfandel

Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma

2021

Dry Creek Valley in Sonoma Country has earned a reputation for growing acclaimed Zinfandel vines. The Grist Vineyard lives up to and far exceeds that reputation and provides the fruit for our Zinfandel. The vineyard sits atop Bradford Mountain, west of the town of Healdsburg, and takes its name from the old Grist Mill on the property. The current vines were planted in 1974 from cuttings taken from the original, 100 year old vineyard on the property. The vineyard lies in rich, red volcanic soils above the fog line and enjoy early morning sunshine and cool afternoon sea breezes.

Winemakers Notes



This Zinfandel, hailing from Dry Creek Valley in Sonoma, exhibits an intense aromatic display of red and blue fruit, fresh peppercorns, and sweet kirsch. A juicy palate, with supple tannins and great structure, is balanced by integrated acidity. Flavors of blueberry compote, blackberry jam, and raspberry liqueur encapsulate the palate.

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Vintage Notes



The 2021 vintage will be remembered for low yields with intensely-flavored, small-sized berries and a smooth and uneventful harvest season. This years growing season can best be described as a cold start to a warm fast finish. The season started off with very little rain, leading to the 2nd year of drought conditions. Harvest began early with white wine grapes picked in August and some reds started being picked in September. The drought of 2021 resulted in a more natural load on the vines, requiring less pruning and dropping of fruit. The resulting grapes are packed full of flavor. The 2021 vintage will be marked with outstanding and intense flavor profiles.

Pairing Insights



Zinfandel is an extremely versatile wine that pairs well with almost any grilled meat. Our staff favorite though is Chef Derick's Smoked Baby Back Ribs with Kansas City Barbecue Sauce. The ribs are a perfect partner to this wine, helping to soften the tannins while accentuating the vibrant, dark fruit flavor elements.