

B CELLARS
[NOTES FROM THE CELLAR]

Zinfandel

Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma

2022

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



Opulent and spice-driven, the nose reveals ripe plum and blackberry layered with cracked peppercorn. The palate is rich and mouth-filling, where blueberry compote and raspberry liqueur unfold into notes of sweet baking spice. Grippy tannins provide structure and balance, leading to a bold, lingering finish.

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Vintage Notes



The 2022 growing season started with weeks of sunny days that created an earlier bud break. Bouts of cooler temperatures occurred in late February and early April, and summer was relatively mild compared to past years. Harvest began a few weeks earlier than anticipated, and finished earlier than normal due to consistently warm fall days in late August and early September. By mid-October, 90% of the grapes had been picked. Despite some of the challenges, which included limited rainfall, some early season fluctuation in temperature, and a warm spring and early summer, we experienced no significant issues. Yields were lighter than average. Overall, this was a solid growing season that showed great fruit quality with smaller berry and cluster sizes.

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.