

UNTI

DRY CREEK VALLEY

ZINFANDEL

2022

75% ZINFANDEL • 20% PETITE SIRAH
5% BARBERA

GROWN, PRODUCED AND BOTTLED
BY UNTI VINEYARDS HEALDSBURG, CA

ALCOHOL 14.9% BY VOLUME

HARVESTED:

SEPT. 9-16, 2022

BRIX AVG:

25.2

BLEND:

75% ZINFANDEL
20% PETITE SIRAH
5% BARBERA

ACIDITY:

5.7 g/L

pH:

3.69

ALCOHOL:

14.9%

AGING:

12 MONTHS
FRENCH OAK
27% NEW

BOTTLED:

2/13/24

CASES: 500

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2022 ZINFANDEL

VARIETAL & VINEYARD: This Zinfandel comes from our Primitivo-clone vineyard planted in 1998. We favor the Primitivo because it produces berries and clusters that are smaller and thicker-skinned compared to typical California Zin selections. This leads to a richer wine with more tannin that is a characteristic of old-vine Zin. Our Petite Sarah comes from a 1-acre block of vines located on our property that we designate as the "Benchland" plot due to its elevated site that frames the eastern slope of Dry Creek Valley, creating an ideal terroir for grape-growing. Our original Barbera vineyard is clone CVT 171 from Piemonte, planted on a low-vigor rootstock called 420-A.

VINTAGE/HARVEST: 2022 began with a dry winter that transitioned into a cooler spring with some intermittent light rains, wind and cold spells. These ultimately played a role in naturally lowering our yields through the estate. Finally in mid-August we experienced much warmer temperatures that persisted until mid-September, finishing off the ripening process with full, expressive aromatic and flavor development. Heat spikes can threaten a thin-skinned varietal like Primitivo/Zin and tempt you to pick early. We instead gambled that our 24 year-old vineyard could handle things without too much dehydration. Our faith was rewarded.

WINEMAKING: The grapes were de-stemmed and gently pumped into stainless steel tanks using a peristaltic pump. Fermentation started naturally without inoculation after a five-day cold soak. We pump the must over twice a day. Upon dryness, the pomace is basket-pressed, blended with free-run wine, and transferred to French oak barrels (27% new). Petite Sirah is the key to making balanced Zin in Dry Creek, as it provides color, stability, tannin structure, and texture. We blend in Barbera for acidity, freshness and balance.

STYLE/DESCRIPTION: The 2022 Zinfandel is a great example of vineyard pedigree and varietal blend over vintage. While the late heat of 2022 could prove dangerous, our 24 year old Primitivo vineyard made one of the best Zinfandel's in Unti history. This, with our Benchland Petite Sirah, made a full-bodied wine that is also juicy and perfectly balanced, aided by our usual touch of Barbera. It will age nicely over the next 3-5 years. Our Zin program has never been better.