



## VENI, VIDI VITIS, VICI

A Zinfandel with restraint is viewed as anathema in some circles. Nevertheless, the delicate varietal character of this wine was enhanced by chilling the fermenting must to 70°F, highlighting aromas of bright red cherry, strawberry, pink and black peppercorns that would otherwise be lost. Think elegant and balanced rather than a jammy over-extracted bruiser. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered.



BOTTLED BY FORGOTTEN UNION WINES, NAPA, CA

**GOVERNMENT WARNING:** (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS. 1.5L CONTAINS SULFITES

**THE VINEYARD** ♦ Planted in 1995 off Cavedale Road in Glen Ellen on Tuscan clay loam, these 300 Zinfandel vines (and perhaps a few Petite Sirah) are tended to by Andrea and Claude Stern. They all enjoy a western slope which gives ample sunlight and warmth to ripen in the beautiful Sonoma Valley.

**GROWING SEASON** ♦ The 2019 growing season was abundant regarding rainfall, heat, and yields! We left the cover crops in to compete for moisture and leafed significantly to reduce vigor. We picked 2 tons on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 24.9 Brix, 4.9 TA and 3.86 pH.

**VINIFICATION** ♦ As often happens with Zinfandel, the 24.9 Brix at harvest soaked up to 27.4 degrees in tank! We kept the chiller running on the tank and used AMH yeast to retain crisp varietal character. Native malolactic fermentation was completed in barrel; 50% new French Oak.

**TASTING NOTES** ♦ A nose of strawberry followed by a burst of bright red cherry on the light palate. French oak frames the finish mingling with white pepper, clove and mocha. This wine is unfinned and unfiltered.

**APPELLATION** Sonoma Valley **SINGLE VINEYARD**

**MATURATION** French Oak Barrels, 50% New

**HARVEST DATE** 9/27/2019 **BOTTLING DATE** 7/8/2021

**AGING** 20 months **ALCOHOL** 14.5% **PH** 3.79 **TA** 5.94 g/L **RS** 0.1 g/L

**PRODUCTION** 125 cases (750 mL) **SUGGESTED RETAIL** \$40

BENJAMIN LEACHMAN ♦ WINEGROWER

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