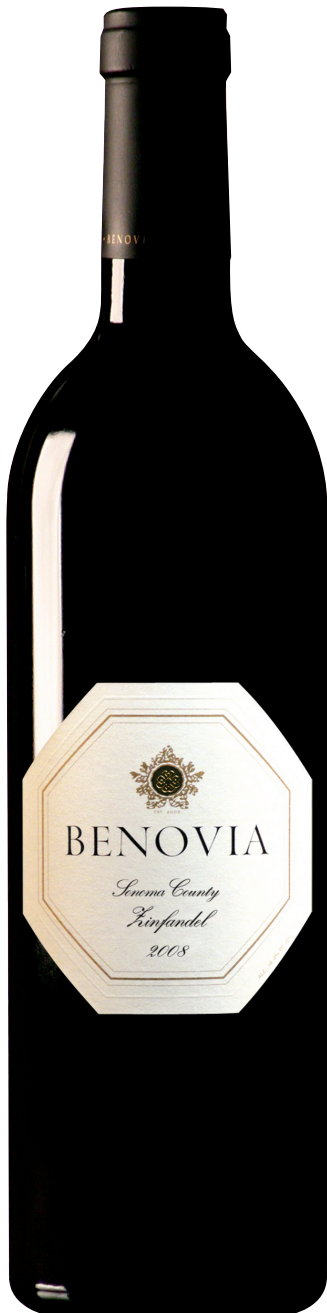




**BENOVIA**<sup>™</sup>  
*Winery*

3339 HARTMAN ROAD  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95401  
(707) 526-4441  
[www.benoviawinery.com](http://www.benoviawinery.com)



*2008*  
*Sonoma County*  
*Zinfandel*

**Harvest Notes**

Spring along the Sonoma Coast was one of the coldest on record; we endured 28 days of frost protection in March and April. We also experienced a second year of drought with rainfall well below average. These two factors would set the stage for early flowering, low yields (compromised by the frost) and a very early harvest. A cool and dry summer, with low mildew and rot pressure, forced us to be more aware of water stress in the vineyard and irrigate as needed. By fall, warm temperatures and an August/September heat spike forced us to harvest some vineyards almost a month early. The resulting low yields and stressed vines produced grapes with tremendous power, color, and outstanding potential.

**Winegrower Notes**

Planted in 1975, this hillside vineyard is planted on a steep and rocky slope on our estate at the northern end of the Russian River Valley. We dry-farm these gnarled vines to produce small and compact clusters with incredible fruit intensity with bright acidity. After cluster sorting, destemming and berry sorting this wine was fermented using open-top fermentation.

**Tasting Notes**

This wine exhibits lively aromas of vine-ripened blackberries and kirsch liquor. On the palate the wine's exuberant fruit is balanced centered acidity building with fruit through the mid-palate to the luscious tannin and a long finish. To preserve the opulent mouthfeel this wine was bottled without fining or filtration.

**Vineyard Sources**

Cohn Vineyard (Estate),  
35-year-old vines

**Harvest Data**

Sept. 4 and 7, 2008  
Alcohol 15.1%  
pH 3.80  
TA 0.67

**Fermentation**

Cold soaked for four days,  
indigenous yeast fermentation

**Cooperage**

48% new French Oak,  
thin staved chateau barrels

**Bottling**

April 22, 2010

**Cases Produced**

381 cases

**Release Date**

July 2010