



BENOVIA
WINERY

2015
ZINFANDEL
SONOMA COUNTY



HARVEST NOTES

A warm February and March led to early bud break in 2015. The warm winter transitioned to May temperatures that were actually colder than in January and February. These cold temperatures at bloom delayed flowering and fruit set was compromised. The poor set resulted in a reduction of yields by as much as 50% in some of our vineyards. The summer weather consisted of characteristic cool nights and foggy morning and resulted in veraison that was nearly two weeks ahead of 2014. The harvest was our earliest on record for Benovia and ended quickly due to the low yields.

WINEGROWER NOTES

Planted in 1970, this hillside vineyard is planted on a steep, 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 and bright acidity. After cluster sorting, destemming and berry sorting this wine was fermented utilizing open-top fermenters and the wine is aged in thin staved Bordeaux barrels on fine lees, without racking.

TASTING NOTES

This wine exhibits lively aromas of vine-ripened blackberries, black raspberry and baking spices. On the palate the wines exuberant fruit is in perfect harmony with bright acidity, fine grained tannin and a spice-laden finish. Utilizing Burgundian techniques produce an elegant and restrained Zinfandel, while still capturing the intensity of the varietal. This wine is delicious upon release but will benefit from 3-7 years of cellar aging.

VINEYARD SOURCES

Cohn Estate Vineyard, planted 1970

HARVEST DATE

September 12th, 2015

ALCOHOL

15.2%

pH

3.62

TA

0.61 g/100ml

FERMENTATION

Cold soaked for 5 days, open top fermentation

COOPERAGE

34% new French Oak, Chateau Frères barrels

BOTTLING

February 2017

CASES PRODUCED

350 cases

RELEASE DATE

Fall 2017