

2019 Rocks Edge

zinfandel

winemaker notes

VARIETY: 95% zinfandel 5% syrah

APPELLATION: Rockpile

DEGREES BRIX AT HARVEST: 25.3-25.6

pH: 3.67-3.90

ALCOHOL: 14.8%

CELLAR RECOMMENDATION: Enjoy this wine through 2030

VINIFICATION NOTES: An extremely moderate summer led to ideal harvest dates of September 21-October 5th. We were fortunate to have all of our fruit in prior to the Kincadee fire. Harvesting occurred by hand, then was sorted and destemmed before being placed in individual tanks by block for an average of 23 days. The wines were barreled down in 92% French and 8% American oak, 33% being new, for 18 months before being blended after extensive blending trials that included individual barrel tasting.

VINEYARD NOTES: Showcasing the best Rockpile fruit of the 2019 vintage, this barrel select wine is comprised of 34% Rocky Ridge Vineyard zinfandel, 34% Jack Jr. Vineyard zinfandel, 18% Zuckerman Vineyard zinfandel, 9% Westphall Vineyard zinfandel, and 5% syrah from our Lily Hill Estate. The Rocky Ridge Vineyard is perched high above Lake Sonoma and the surrounding hills. Its high elevation, along with the thin, rocky soils that give this area its name, provide an excellent location for growing intense, low-yielding grapevines. Jack Jr. vineyard experiences strong winds, causing its dark zinfandel fruit to achieve thicker skins and greater tannin structure. Westphall Vineyard has ideal western sun exposures, while Jack Jr. Vineyard has red volcanic soil and steep slopes—all of which contribute to the character and complexity of this wine.

WINEMAKER NOTES: Hand-picked from the best Rockpile AVA barrels, *Wine Enthusiast* calls this 94-point wine "Dense and layered ... deep blackberry, raspberry, wood char and grilled herb flavors, with firm tannins and a full body. Black pepper, grilled beef and dark-chocolate notes build on the palate and linger long on the finish." This is a no-holds barred wine with cab-like structure and rich depth like no other zinfandel we make.

VINEYARD DETAILS:

CLONE: Various

VINE SPACING: 8x8 and 6x8

YEAR PLANTED: 1905 - 2000

SOIL TYPE: Clay loam and rocky volcanic

YIELD PER ACRE: 2 - 3 tons

TRELLISING STYLE: VSP and head-trained

ELEVATION: 200 - 1250 feet

ROOTSTOCK: St. George

IRRIGATION: Drip

CASES PRODUCED: 300 cases