



MARTINELLI
WINERY & VINEYARDS

**Jackass Vineyard Zinfandel
Russian River Valley
2011**

Vineyard Character

Jackass Vineyard was planted in the late 1800's in the splendid Russian River Valley. This eight acre vineyard thrives on a steep rolling hillside which surrounds the west side of the Jackass Hill Vineyard. The old head pruned vines are farmed much the same way as they were a century ago; without the use of trellising, irrigation, or pesticides. The vines produce a large crop load for being 100 years old, about three tons per acre, and the fruit is thinned to insure more concentrated flavor in the berries.

Growing Year

This was one of the coolest growing years on record in the last 30 years, especially during the month of June. Due to the cool weather, harvest was later than usual. These wines will age well, and show more structure due to the increased acidity from the cooler growing season.

Wine Statistics

After picking, the whole berries undergo a long cool fermentation, with indigenous yeast, to generate skin contact and extract fruit character. The juice is transferred into oak barrels with a touch of residual sugar remaining to complete the fermentation process in barrel until dry. It is then allowed to rest and mature in 33% new French oak on its gross lees for ten months before bottling. The grapes, juice, and then wine are minimally handled. The finished wine is un-fined, un-filtered, neither cold nor heat stabilized and contains naturally occurring sediment.

Case Production: 223

Tasting Notes

The 2011 Jackass Vineyard Zinfandel has aromas of blueberry and black cherry, with hints of tropical fruit and cocoa. The wine is firm and well balanced with a long finish including flavors of blackberry jam, nectarines, and Italian plums.

Historical Acclaim

2011 Vintage

- 93 points. Josh Raynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar
- 93 points. Robert M Parker, Jr., The Wine Advocate

2010 Vintage

- 93 points. Josh Raynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme

Consulting Winemaker: Erin Green