



**MARTINELLI**  
WINERY & VINEYARDS

**Lolita Ranch Zinfandel**  
**Russian River Valley**  
**2012**

**Vineyard Character**

The Lolita Ranch is located on Martinelli Road in Forestville. The property once adjoined the original Martinelli Homestead Ranch, belonging to Giuseppe & Luisa Martinelli. Giuseppe & Luisa had purchased the steep, forested landscape in the late 1800's and then later sold this particular section to a neighbor. Eventually it passed on to Bob and Lolita Young, who ran a herd of Angus and Hereford cattle on the land for many years. Lee Martinelli Jr. and his wife Pamela acquired the property in 1999, returning it back to the Martinelli estate and to the family's continuing century-long legacy of viticulture. Lee Jr. planted the steep hillside in 2001 with four different grape varietals; Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Zinfandel.

**Growing Year**

This was a fairly mild year, similar to 2007 and 2009. The harvest looked like it was going to be early because of the early heat and bud break, but this ended up being a long, drawn out season with consistent growing temperatures. The wines have good tannins, structure, and a nice acid balance, due to the long growing season.

**Wine Statistics**

After picking, the whole berries undergo a long cool fermentation to generate skin contact and expose fruit character and are fermented with wild yeast. The juice is transferred to oak barrels with a touch of residual sugar remaining to complete the fermentation process in barrel until dry. It rests in 35% new French oak on its gross lees for ten months. The wine is neither heat nor cold stabilized, is un-fined and un-filtered, and clarified only by racking before bottling.

Case Production: 364

**Tasting Notes**

The 2012 Lolita Ranch Zinfandel has a luscious nose of peppery spices and red fruit leading to a full, expressive palate of sweet plum, boysenberry, cola, black fig, and vanilla.

**Historical Acclaim**

2012 Vintage

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

2011 Vintage

- 95 points Robert M. Parker, Jr. The Wine Advocate
- 91 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous

**Winemaker:** Bryan Kvamme

**Consulting Winemaker:** Erin Green