



MARTINELLI

ESTABLISHED IN THE 1880'S

Jackass Vineyard Zinfandel
Russian River Valley
2016

Vineyard Character

This eight acre vineyard was planted in the late 1800's and is located just the south of our Jackass Hill Vineyard. These old head pruned vines are farmed much the same way as they were a century ago; without the use of trellising, irrigation, or pesticides.

Growing Year

Although 2016 received just below average rainfall, it was still considered the last year of our 5-year drought. However, this adequate amount of rain at the appropriate time led to favorable conditions for bloom, which resulted in an even fruit-set and good vine balance. Summer temperatures were generally cooler, which allowed the fruit to ripen more slowly and develop deeper flavors. The weather held steady through harvest allowing us to pick the fruit at optimum maturity levels resulting in wines full of finesse and intensity.

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 40% 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: 191

Tasting Notes

Our 2016 Jackass Vineyard Zinfandel has aromas of black cherry, stone fruits, and baking spices. The palate is very complex and layered with flavors with boysenberry, hints of fig, and wild exotic fruits

Historical Acclaim

2016 Vintage

- 95+ points The Wine Advocate
- 94 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous

2015 Vintage

- 95 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous
- 95 points The Wine Advocate

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme

Consulting Winemaker: Erin Green