

CALCAREOUS

VINEYARD



ZINFANDEL

2013

Kate's Vineyard – Paso Robles



Comments

Massive notes of lavender, blackberry pie, and vanilla fill the glass. The upfront fruit fill the palate with ripe bramble berries and peaches while heavier notes of fig and mocha come in later completing a immense mouthfeel. Brilliant acidity combines near the end with deeply toasted American oak creating a creamy honey covered greek yogurt finish that begs for another sip

Vineyard

Our Zinfandel all comes from our Kate's Vineyard which lies in Kiler Canyon just south of our winery. We have been farming the vineyard for 13 years and consider it truly part of our Estate. The vineyard is planted on an array of aspects, which allows the separate blocks to develop considerably different characteristics. This comes into play in the cellar as the separate lots are blended together to create single vineyard, single variety "blends" of amazing cohesion.

Blend	92% Zinfandel, 8% Cab Sauv
Harvest	October 25-November 7
Avg. Brix	27.1
pH	3.57
TA	6.9 g/L
Cooperage	20% New American Canton, 80% Neutral American
Aging	14 Months
Production	630 Cases

Winemaker Notes

2013 was the 2nd consecutive year of drought like conditions, and the increase in density really shows. Being a thin skinned varietal, Zinfandel tends to produce more fruit than tannin when produced in a concentrated style. In order to produce a balanced wine, time and effort are directed towards tannin extraction. We used a combination of 20% whole cluster fermentation and extended maceration. A regiment of twice daily punch downs and a pump over every third day promoted a full extraction of phenolics. The wine was left on skins for 29 days, which also allowed us to extract seed tannin, which when fully mature gives the wine plenty of toasted

woody tannin without having to rely on cooperage. The free run and press fractions were combined and allowed to complete malo-lactic fermentation in 20% new American heavy toasted Canton barrels and 80% neutral American barrels. After 14 months, the wine was racked out and 8% Estate Cabernet Sauvignon was blended in before bottling to add structure and weight.