

Girard

NAPA VALLEY

2001

ZINFANDEL

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Our Zinfandel is an interesting blend of two head trained old vine vineyards book-ending the Napa Valley. Roughly half the wine is from the highest elevation vineyard planted in the Napa Valley on the top of Mt. Vaca in the southeast corner of Napa. The vineyard is 2,750 in elevation, nearly 1,000 feet higher than the top of Atlas Peak. The other vineyard is from the northwest corner of Napa valley from an east facing hillside vineyard.

Together they create a wine rich in spicy plum fruit. The soft but evident tannins indicate the wine's ability to age for four to six years but the forward fruit in this claret style Zinfandel will tempt you not to wait. 100% Napa Valley Zinfandel. 883 cases produced.

Winemaking

The grapes were hand sorted and crushed to stainless steel fermenters. Pumpovers were done as gently as possible so as to avoid unnecessarily harsh tannin extraction. Pressed at dryness directly to barrel, the wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered after 15 months in French oak barrels.

o Alc 14.4% PH 3.68 TA .64g/100ml

Press/Awards

92 POINTS, **Best 10 Zinfandels of 2003**, Spicy and blunt as an old-vine carignane from the hills of Roussillon, this sophisticated zin grows in tow hillside vineyards, including Harris near the top of Mt. Vaca at 2,800 feet. Scents of green herbs and red spice ride a wave of black current fruit. Then it is shut down by the tannin, the round fruit and spicy aromatics remaining in the background, waiting to expand with air or age." *Wine & Spirits Magazine October 2003*,

91 POINTS, **Editor's Choice**, A firm but supple-textured wine, sporting layers of cassis, black cherry, toast, smoke, spice, herbs and plum flavors. This is a classy Zin, with silky tannins and a complex array of tastes that unfold with smooth elegance. Long and lush at the end. — *Wine Enthusiast, November, 2003*

4 STARS PLUS, A fruity, full-bodied, and lightly oaked style of Zinfandel, which is richly flavored (blueberry, plum, toast, pepper) and long on the finish.. *Restaurant Wine , October, 2003*

2nd Place, **2003 Aspen Wine & Food Classic**, American Red Wines "Distinctive aromas of plum and strawberry jam. Plush mouth feel and loaded with ripe plum, blackberries, strawberries and strawberries with floral notes"