

2008 XYZIN 50



XYZin

XYZin wines explore the relationship of vine age to taste profile. XYZin 50 comes from Zinfandel vines that were at least 50 years of age at the time of harvest. At XYZin we believe that the history of a vineyard is as much a part of the *terroir* as are climate, soil, clones and the age of its vines. XYZin Vine Age Series wines offer a tabletop exploration of California's unique Zinfandel heritage

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

XYZin 50 comes from vines that were at last 50 years of age at the time of harvest, meaning that they were planted before the mid-1950's. The post-war era was a time of great innovation in the United States. A sense of country, progress, and efficiency was palpable among Americans, and this was especially true in agriculture. However, despite the rapid pace of innovation in large-scale commercial farming that marked the era, a countervailing trend also made its mark in the history of Zinfandel.

After the restless war years, many family farmers returned to the pastoral lives they had left behind and set out to build family businesses, or return to those from which they had been displaced. Traditional farming retained a particularly loyal following among grape growers, and many continued to farm their ranches as their parents and grandparents had done. Fifty year old vines show a delightful blend of traditional and 'modern' growing techniques. Many old clones still thrive from this time period alongside newer, 'bred' clones.

XYZin 50 shows the best of the new and old. This wine gives a nod to tradition, while turning an eye toward the future. XYZin 50 exhibits bright fruit balanced by an elegant weight, elusive spice, confident regional character and stylish oak.

THE WINE

The Russian River Valley is home to many well-established, traditionally-farmed Zinfandel vineyards many of which were planted in the 1950's. A select few are represented in this bottling. The cool breezes and foggy mornings in the region enhance the spice elements inherent in the Zinfandel grape resulting in wines that display attractive racy fruit with a refined, exotic spice dimension. XYZin 50 offers beautiful briar and pomegranate fruit at its core followed by waves of sandalwood, mocha, and a light whiff of pepper on the finish. The refined structure and polished spice are perfected through aging in French oak barrels and make the wine versatile enough to complement a variety of dishes. Enjoy XYZin 50 with ginger-scented Thai curries, classic Brasserie fare, and glazed or braised meats. The wine will cellar elegantly but will be best enjoyed over the next 2 to 4 years.

GRAPE VARIETY
Zinfandel

MINIMUM VINE AGE
50 Years

APPELLATION
Russian River Valley

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE
\$30

CASES PRODUCED
1,000 cases (9L)

MATURATION
Aged 15 months in
French Oak

RELEASE DATE
Spring 2010

ALCOHOL
14.2%

pH	TA
3.7	6.3

THE LAST WORD IN ZINFANDEL
VINE AGE SERIES