

2012 Rockpile Zinfandel

A "zin for pinot lovers," the 2012 exhibits a balanced and delicate nose while still remaining true to its Rockpile pedigree. Brambles and dried dark fruits are the most forward elements on the nose, with warm spices like clove and Asian 5-spice vibrating in perfect harmony. But it's the smooth, full mouth-feel that makes this a truly special zinfandel bottling. Kerith's deft touch and decision to barrel the 2012 in 100% French oak elevates our 2012 Rockpile to a whole new level of deliciousness. Drink now through 2024.

Harvest:

The 2012 harvest was robust, to say the least. For the first time in Bruliam history, our swale block yielded a whopping 2.7429 tons. This is craziness from a vineyard site that is inherently stressed, low yielding and dry farmed. 2.7429 tons? Yup, we were amazed. That's more than twice the 2011 bounty. And we are thrilled to pass more finished goodness on to you. We harvested the grapes on October 9, 2012. Our Rockpile fruit is hand-harvested, hand sorted and de-stemmed to 100% whole berry the same day. The truck sample yielded the following measurements:

°Brix: 22.1 pH: 3.47 TA: 6.20 g/L

Fermentation:

Our zinfandel followed a three day cold soak protocol with inoculation for primary fermentation on day #3 (October 12, 2012). DI water was added in conjunction with the yeast strain RP15. Fermentation showed a long lag, but once it took off on 10/15/12, it flew to completion. The dry wine was drained, pressed, and barreled down on October 19, 2012. We inoculated for secondary fermentation in barrel.

Barrel Aging:

The wine was aged for 16 months in all French oak (30% new) from Nadalie and Radoux.

Blending:

Swale block is planted entirely St. Peter's Church California heritage clone. We blended in 12.5% petite sirah for complexity, body, and color.

Bottling

We bottled this wine on February 14, 2014. The wine was aged in bottle for eight months prior to our fall 2014 release date.

About Bruliam Wines

Bruliam Wines is a boutique producer of single vineyard premium wines. Established in 2008 by Kerith and Brian Overstreet, "Bruliam" is an amalgamation of our three young children's names. We've extensively documented our start-up and on-going growth on our blog at www.bruliamwines.com. The ultimate goal of Bruliam Wines is to craft world class wines while using 100% of our profits to support charitable organizations. Since our inception, we have made donation to over 60 individual charities selected by our mailing list members and restaurant partners. For more information, please visit us at www.bruliamwines.com