



2016 Rocky Ridge Vineyard Zinfandel

She has a snappy new package but the same mouthwatering juiciness you know and love. Black plum and exotic spices co-exist with sandalwood and rich star anise. Crushed French herbs linger in the background, and a mouthful of dark fruit offers terrific length. That trademark Rockpile minerality keeps the wine focused and taut. This is a food friendly zinfandel with soft tannins that invite sip after sip after sip. Roasted, braised, or grilled, pick your favorite protein to pair alongside this totally yummy zin. Drink now through 2024.

Harvest:

Our Rockpile swale is full of surprises. In 2016, our little block yielded a full 2.34 tons, a pretty good ole' haul. We picked on 9/24/16, some 10 days later than the fabled early crop of 2015. We were delighted. A mid to late September pick is on par for "average" ripening- whatever THAT means these days. Our Rockpile fruit was hand-harvested, hand sorted, and de-stemmed to 100% whole berry the same day as delivery. The truck sample yielded the following measurements:

°Brix: 24.8

pH: 3.56

TA: 6.7 g/L

Fermentation:

To help concentrate flavors, I gave this vintage a 10% volume saignee after 24 hours in tank. (Nope, we didn't even attempt a rose of zinfandel!). Our 2016 zinfandel was fermented in tank using a yeast strain called RX60, praised for opulence and dark fruits. The wine was drained to barrel and pressed on 10/7/16. We inoculated for secondary fermentation in barrel, using CH16.

Barrel Aging:

The wine was aged for 16 months in all French oak (30% new) from Nadalie and Radoux. The oak balance ranged from once used to neutral French oak.

Blending:

Swale block is planted entirely St. Peter's Church California heritage clone. The 2016 vintage is 96% our Rockpile zinfandel plus a 4% petit sirah addition. Yeah, it's that precise.

Bottling:

We bottled this wine on February 26, 2018. The wine was aged in bottle for 7 months prior to our fall 2018 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 children's names (**BR**uno, **LIL**y, **AM**elia). We craft world class wines and practice a strong charitable mandate. Since our 2008 inception, Bruliam has donated to over 70 unique, charitable organizations selected by our mailing list members and restaurant partners. We've extensively documented our start-up and on-going growth on our blog. For more information, please visit us at www.bruliamwines.com.