

RIDGE 2023

EAST BENCH

ZINFANDEL

DRY CREEK VALLEY
SONOMA COUNTY

100% ZINFANDEL (organically grown)
14.3% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

Ridge has made the East Bench as a single vineyard since 2006, one of the few Ridge zinfandels that is 100% zinfandel. The vineyard sits high atop the bench land that overlooks Dry Creek Valley from the east.

FIRST RIDGE EAST BENCH: 2006

VINTAGE

Rainfall: 64 inches (above average)

Bloom: End of June

Weather: Late and prolonged harvest due to consistently cool weather throughout the growing season.

Harvest Dates: 29 September - 7 October

Grapes: Average Brix 23.9°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

Fermentation: Natural primary and natural secondary (malolactic) fermentations.

Barrels: 100% air-dried American oak barrels (14% new oak, 10% one-year-old, 10% two-year-old, and 66% five-plus-year-old).

Aging: Fourteen months in barrel

pH: 3.64

TA: 6.1 g/L

Hand-harvested; estate-grown organic grapes; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the indigenous yeast, followed by a full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush, 112 ppm during aging); pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



RIDGE
VINEYARDS

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2023 Zinfandel, East Bench, bottled 12/2024

In 1999, we planted this twenty-acre parcel to zinfandel. As the vineyard has matured, depth and complexity of flavor have increased. After plentiful winter rain, the vines set a full crop. Each parcel was crushed and fermented separately. In blind tasting, seven of the blocks were selected for this wine. A perfect example of both varietal and site, this classic zinfandel will be at its best over the next seven years. SR (11/24)



SITE

East Bench Vineyard is located on the Eastern bench of Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County

Soils: Gravelly clay loam

Age of Vines: Planted in 2000

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned

Yields: 3 tons per acre

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