

2022 Zinfandel Reserve, Dry Creek Valley



History

Since 1996, Dashe Cellars has been making Zinfandels from the Dry Creek Valley. Our Dry Creek Valley Zinfandel is the flagmark wine of the Dashe Cellars label.

To make this special Dry Creek Reserve wine we selected two of our favorite vineyards from the region and tasted every barrel, selecting only the best for this Reserve wine. We wanted to show the distinctive characteristics of the Dry Creek Valley with a complex spectrum of flavors, and balance of fruit and bright acidity. This is a particularly structured and fruit-forward wine with a significant component of Petite Sirah and Grenache added for complexity.

Production

The vintage of 2022 got off to a great start—early Spring rains gave the vines a basis for great steady growth and moderate summer weather allowed steady ripening. A heat wave near Labor Day pushed the grapes to ripeness and we were able to harvest early enough so the grapes ripened beautifully. Half the grape lots were harvested before the heat and the remainder immediately after, so the flavors were perfectly balanced.

The wine was fermented using the natural yeast population and the resulting wine shows off the terroir of the vineyards. The wine was aged mostly in French oak puncheons to gain the softness of oak aging without adding excessive oak flavors. Finally, in our blending trials, we added about 20% of Petite Sirah, for structure, depth, and long aging potential, and 4% Grenache for fruit and supple texture.

Production Notes:

Varietals

76% Zinfandel 20% Petite Sirah 4% Grenache

Appellation

Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County

Alcohol

14.8% by vol.

Time in oak

16 months

Oak

25% new french oak puncheons 75% 1-year or older French oak

Production

559 cases, 750ml

Tasting Notes:

Color: Reddish-purple

Aroma: Black raspberry, black current, hints of cherry liqueur and chocolate, with an underlying floral component of violets.

Taste: Big, structured wine with a velvety texture; blackberry, pomegranate, and cassis, hints of chocolate and licorice, great acidity and balance. Finishes with a long and balanced raspberry and cherry liqueur finish.