

## *2013 Zinfandel, Rockpile Ridge Vineyard*



Varietal

**Zinfandel**

Appellation

**Rockpile**

Vineyard Designation

**Rockpile Ridge Vineyard**

Composition

**93% Zinfandel 7% Petite Sirah**

Production

**715**

Fermentation

**15 months in oak barrels 90% French 10%**

**American**

Alcohol %

**15.15**

Our family's Rockpile Ridge Vineyard is located at nearly 1,200-ft. elevation in the Rockpile appellation. This vineyard has sweeping sun exposures from southeast to northwest and consists of nine distinctly different blocks of Zinfandel. The blocks are all harvested at different times and fermented separately to insure the integrity and uniqueness of the individual blocks. Working with the different sun exposures, soil compositions, slopes and drainages is a winemaking dream come true and what makes our Rockpile Ridge Zinfandel so spectacular.

There is no doubt that the 2012 vintage is a hard act to follow, but believe or not, the 2013 Zinfandels, particularly from Rockpile, may be some of the best we have ever made. The growing season was near perfect, with slightly more heat than its preceding vintage. The extraordinary growing conditions, coupled with lower crop size, yielded wines with succinct fruit and incredible focus.

On the nose, dried red fruit is complemented by hints of mineral and spice. The mouthfeel is round and enveloping. Velvety tannins coat your palate from start to finish. Raspberry and rhubarb intermingle on the entry and give way to complex flavors of black licorice and peppercorn. The fine-grained tannins are indicative of the ideal growing season, allowing for many years of graceful aging. Full bodied with balanced acidity, this wine will age beautifully for the next 5-8 years.