

2016 Rombauer ZINFANDEL

Introduced to California during the Gold Rush, Zinfandel is considered by many to be America's heritage grape. A tribute to California wine history, this Zinfandel was sourced from some of the state's oldest and most revered wine regions, from family owned vineyards that in some cases date back over 100 years.

VINEYARDS

This wine blends lots from select vineyards in top growing regions: El Dorado (60%), Sierra Foothills (23%), Lake (14%) and Napa (3%) counties.

WINEGROWING

A cool spell in August stalled harvest a bit at the outset, but a warm September brought a mad dash to the finish. 2016 brought another high-quality vintage despite small volumes for some varieties due to cool, rainy weather at flowering. Sustainable farming practices throughout the growing season were tailored to each block with the assistance of aerial photos produced using NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) technology. The fruit was handpicked at night and sorted in the vineyard, then transported by refrigerated trucks to the winery.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were carefully destemmed and optically sorted to ensure only perfect

fruit made it into the wine. A cold soak extracted color and flavor before primary fermentation began in tank. The wine was gently basket-pressed, then racked to oak barrels to finish primary fermentation, malolactic fermentation and aging.

TASTING NOTES

Our classic California Zinfandel is dark purple-ruby, with a bright crimson hue. On the nose, concentrated aromas of blackberry and raspberry meld with clove and spice. Lush flavors of raspberry, blackberry jam, plums and vanilla flood the palate, followed by touches of white pepper in the background. Plush and round tannins and great length make for a fresh and enticing finish.

FOOD PAIRINGS

Our favorite *Joy of Cooking*® pairings* for this wine include Pulled Pork with North Carolina Style Barbecue Sauce, Lamb Ragù or Fromage Fort.



RELEASE DATE	April 2018	AVERAGE BRIX AT HARVEST	27.7
APPELLATION	California	COOPERAGE	14 months in American oak (10% new) and French oak
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	94% Zinfandel 6% Petite Sirah	ALCOHOL	15.9%
HARVESTED	Sept. 1–Sept. 27, 2016		

*Recipes for pairings with a noted page number can be found in the 75th anniversary edition of the *Joy of Cooking*. Recipes not appearing in the book can be found at www.JoyofCooking.com.



The Joy of Wine

THE ROMBAUER FAMILY *Inspired by the wine movement of the 1970s in Napa Valley, Koerner and Joan Rombauer entered the wine business in 1976, then launched Rombauer Vineyards in 1980. As stewards of the land, the Rombauers have strived to produce the best wine an appellation, terroir and climate will achieve. The second and third generations are dedicated to continuing Koerner and Joan's vision.*

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