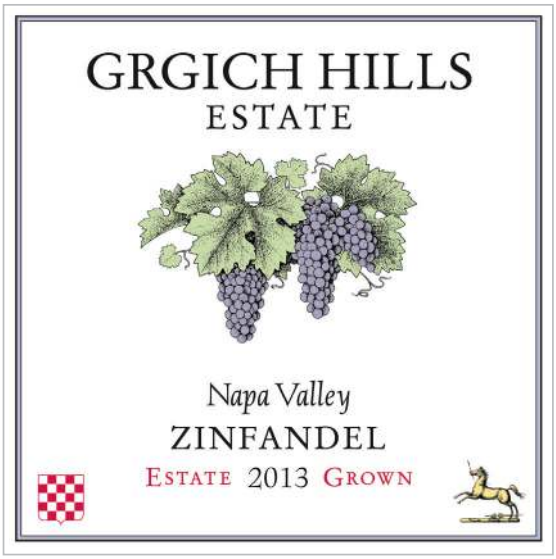
GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY



Alcohol	15% by volume
Fermentation	indigenous yeast; pressed off skins early to retain fruit character
Harvest date	Sept. 26 - Oct. 8, 2013
Sugar	25° Brix (average)
Bottling date	March 31, 2015
Release date	October 2017
Total acid	5.5 g/L
pH	3.81
Time in oak	15 months
Type of oak	large French oak casks
Production	6,557 cases (12/750 ml.)
Blend	97% Zinfandel 3% Petite Sirah

2013 ZINFANDEL

ESTATE GROWN • NAPA VALLEY

WINEMAKER'S NOTES: The severe drought of this vintage produced small berries and clusters, enhancing the color and concentrating the flavors. The result was a wine with the rare blend of both power and elegance.

VINTAGE: The 2013 vintage was nearly perfect, with consistent sunshine and moderate temperatures. After a wet start to winter in 2012, spring was warmer than usual, triggering an early budbreak and flowering and fruit set under sunny skies. With only one heat spike in late June/early July, Napa's typical warm days and cool nights created wonderfully flavorful grapes. We started harvesting about two weeks earlier than usual and never seemed to stop with grapes coming in at a steady pace.

VINEYARD: Our 34-acre vineyard above Calistoga is the warmest of our five vineyards and the sole source of our Zinfandel. Its northeast exposure catches abundant morning sun but is shaded from the hot, late afternoon sun and combined with the vineyard's gravelly loam soils, creates the perfect spot to grow this varietal. We farm all of our vineyards naturally, without artificial pesticides or herbicides, and they are certified organic.

THE WINE: We co-fermented the Zinfandel with a touch of Petite Sirah to add complexity and structure and then aged the wine in large oak casks so the flavors are well integrated but not overwhelmed by oak. This food-friendly Zinfandel's fresh flavors of ripe blackberries, black cherries and a hint of pepper on the long finish is the perfect match for grilled meats with barbecue sauce, sausage pizza and hearty pastas.

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