

Branham Estate Resolution Rockpile Zinfandel Sonoma County 2021

Selected by: MTW Tasting Panel



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2021

GRAPE Zinfandel

GEOGRAPHY Not Europe

COUNTRY USA

LARGER REGION California

SMALLER REGION Sonoma County

Rationale

California's adopted "native" grape is the best variety to demonstrate regional differences in the Golden State. Zinfandels from Amador taste differently from those of Mendocino which are, in turn, unlike those from Napa Valley or Paso Robles. Sonoma County is one of the most appreciated regions for Zin and home to many of the state's oldest vines. Young Zinfandel will always appear dark in color and, as a fuller-bodied wine, generous weight and viscosity when swirling the glass. The denser, low yield/more extracted versions, may well have stained tears, illustrating residual pink to purple color as the tears settle from falling down the inside of the glass.

Though regularly displaying a peppery character (especially if the wine is a field blend inclusive of other grapes like Petite Sirah, Carignan, Alicante Bouschet, etc.), the ripe, occasionally jammy, fruit-forward nature of the wine is its signature. Brambly and bright, redolent with oozing red and black fruit, Zinfandel can taste confected or pruny if picked overripe and raisinated if left out for extended time on the vine.

Branham Estate Wines began in 1994 with the planting of the Branham Rockpile Vineyard. It is comprised of 410 acres of wilderness that was once a part of the historic Rock Pile in the namesake AVA of Rockpile. Branham Rockpile Vineyard now consists of 19 acres planted with diverse varieties, including: Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Syrah, Aglianico, Grenache Noir, etc. Resolution Zin is made of their signature Rockpile Zinfandel assembled with a kiss of Petite Sirah.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Day Bright

CLARITY Clear

COLOR DEPTH Medium

COLOR Ruby

RIM VARIATION Pink
Stained Tears: Medium

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry

ACID Med+

ALCOHOL High

TANNIN Med+

TEXTURE Round / Smooth

FINISH Med+

COMPLEXITY Med+

Aroma & Taste

RED FRUIT Red Plum • Cranberry • Red Raspberry • Red / Sour Cherry *Condition: Ripe, Jammy / Candied*

BLUE FRUIT Blueberry • Boysenberry *Condition: Fresh*

BLACK FRUIT Black Raspberry • Blackberry • Black Plum • Black Cherry *Condition: Ripe*

FLORAL Lavender *Condition: Fresh*

OTHER VEGETABLE Cola Nut • Mushrooms (Brown)

HERBAL Tea Leaf / Bergamot • Basil • Rosemary • Mint / Eucalyptus • Chicory

OTHER SPICES Sarsaparilla • Licorice (Black) • Licorice (Red) • Chinese Five Spice

ORGANIC EARTH Forest Floor • Turned Dirt / Potting Soil

INORGANIC EARTH Mineral / Rock

OAK AGING Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*

OAK INFLUENCE Blended Oak

OXIDATION/NUTTINESS Almond / Marzipan • Pecan / Brittle