

Opolo

2020 MOUNTAIN ZINFANDEL

Paso Robles

For more than 15 years, Opolo Mountain Zinfandel has been a standard bearer of Zinfandel from Paso Robles. This heritage variety—which has been grown in our region since the 1800s—excels across our estate vineyards in the westside coastal mountains. Here, we have developed our trademark Mountain Zinfandel style: rich, bold, fruit-forward and always lively through the finish.

Vineyards

The 2020 Mountain Zinfandel is a faithful reflection of the coastal mountain terroirs west of downtown Paso Robles. This wine comes predominantly from three of the most heralded westside sub-AVAs of Paso Robles—Willow Creek District, Adelaida District and Templeton Gap. The fruit from the Willow Creek District comes from two of our estate vineyards: the main Opolo Estate as well as our estate Dove Pond Vineyard. Here, some of the coolest growing conditions in Paso Robles yield Zinfandel fruit with great energy, tension and acidity as well as tannin structure. By also sourcing fruit from four select vineyards in the warmer Adelaida District, we are able to layer in rich, riper fruit tones with softer textures. Our estate vineyards in Willow Creek as well as the sites in the Adelaida District all unfold along rocky soils composed of calcareous limestone and clay—a rare and coveted soil profile. Into this mix we also include fruit from the east-facing slopes of Arbor Creek Vineyard in the Templeton Gap District, which brings yet even more dimension to the finished wine.

Winemaking

Under the direction of winemakers James Schreiner and Chris Rougeot, the individual 2020 Mountain Zinfandel sites were hand-picked and cold soaked for two days. The lots were then fermented in stainless steel tanks and small open-top fermenters, all with attentive phenolic management to ensure optimal mouthfeel. After fermentation and settling, the lots were racked to French (90%) and American (10%) oak barrels, inclusive of 30 percent new oak. In the winter, lots with common characteristics were blended and returned to barrels for seamless integration. After 10 total months of barrel aging, Schreiner and Rougeot assembled the final blend to create this latest chapter in the story of the Opolo Mountain Zinfandel.

Winemakers' Tasting Notes

The 2020 vintage exhibits all of the classic hallmarks of Opolo Mountain Zinfandel, most notably a bold, lush palate distinguished by fine structure and vivid fruit flavors that are true to westside Paso Robles. Aromas of dried cherry and spiced raspberry anticipate notes of sandalwood and toasted oak. Plush, rounded flavors of black cherry, crushed blackberry and cocoa reveal hints of savory spice and cedar. Supple tannins and racy acidity lead into a long, smooth finish.

Varietal Composition

Zinfandel 100%

Appellation

Paso Robles

Sub AVAs

Willow Creek
Adelaida
Templeton Gap
Estrella

Aging

10 Months in French (90%)
and American (10%) Oak

Analysis

TA: .62
pH: 3.82
Alc. by Volume: 15.8%
Cases Produced: 8,417

