

2023 ZINFANDEL "CHILES CANYON VINEYARDS"

ESTATE GROWN AND BOTTLED



Appellation

Napa Valley

Vineyards

Chiles Mill Vineyard: 900-1200 ft elevation, 6.93 acres first planted in 1972 Catacula Vineyard: 1200-1400 ft elevation, 9.59 acres planted 1993-1999 Tip Top Vineyard: 1700-2000 ft elevation, 15.21 acres planted 1999

Soil

Red Chert veined with Green Serpentine, our namesake soils, intermixed with Sobrante Loam

Harvest

Hand-picked October 3rd through 20th

Vinification

Fruit was destemmed onto a shaker table and berry sorted into open top fermenters. A 3-day cold soak was followed by an approximately 10-day fermentation. Aged 16 months in our cave, in 50% American oak and 50% French oak barrels, 20% of which was new oak.

Production

1518 cases bottled March 2025

Tasting Comments

Styled like the Zins of old, this is zesty and briary but with claretlike elegance. Flavors of cherry and raspberry are laced with anise, sage and cracked pepper. Drink now through 2033."—T.F. **WS 93pts**

Alcohol 14.9% TA 5.67 g/L pH 3.72

Recommended Retail Price: \$36/bottle

On our label is "The Dionysus Cup," an ancient Grecian cup crafted by Exekias in 530 BC, which depicts Homer's "Hymn to Dionysus." Homer tells the story of pirates, cruising along the Aegean, who spot a strapping man and decide to take him hostage. The Helmsman warns them off, but the captain heads out to sea with their captive: Dionysus, the God of Wine. Soon "wine sprang forth, babbling, bubbling over the speedy black ship: it was sweet, it was fragrant, the odor was divine." The sea turned wine red and vines grew up the mast. Dionysius turns into a lion and attacks the captain; the other pirates dive over the edge, where they are turned into dolphins.