



MARTINELLI

ESTABLISHED IN THE 1880'S

## ZINFANDEL

LOLITA RANCH VINEYARD • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2021



### 2021 VINTAGE

96 points – Erin Brooks, *Wine Advocate*

93 points – Audrey Frick, *Jeb Dunnuck*

### 2019 VINTAGE

94 points - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*

94 points - Erin Brooks, *Wine Advocate*

### WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonage

Oak: 40% new French Oak,  
60% neutral French Oak, 11 months

Case Production: 190

### VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type:

Josephine's with lots of Franciscan shale

Rootstock: 101-14, 3309, 420A

Clones: JAV, JAH

### GROWING YEAR

2021 was the driest year on record since they started keeping records 127 years ago. It was also the third year of drought conditions for Sonoma County. Contrary to these conditions, the summer was relatively cool and started two weeks later than the previous year. The drought conditions did bring ripeness to each of our varieties at just about the same time. By the end of the first week, we had 40% of the total tonnage in the winery. This included Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Zinfandel from both Fort Ross-Seaview and Russian River Valley. Despite being a very compact harvest, small clusters and berry size have yielded exceptional quality which makes 2021 a standout vintage.

### VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Lolita Ranch is located on Martinelli Road in Forestville. The property was part of the original Martinelli Homestead Ranch, belonging to Giuseppe and Luisa Martinelli who purchased the steep, forested land in the late 1800s. Later, their eldest son Fred sold the parcel to his neighbor, Lolita Young's mother. Eventually, Bob and Lolita Young inherited it and ran a herd of cattle on the land for many years. Lee Martinelli Jr. and his wife Pamela acquired the property in 1999 from Bob Young after Lolita's passing, returning it back to the Martinelli estate and to the family's continuing century-long legacy of viticulture. Lee Jr. decided to name the ranch after Lolita and he then planted the steep hillside in 2001 with four different grape varieties: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Zinfandel.

### TASTING NOTES

Delectable aromas of Black Forest cake, red plum, and sweet barrel spice are found in the nose. A juicy entry with flavors of red currants and rhubarb are found in the mouth. A hint of white peach is found in the long-lasting finish.