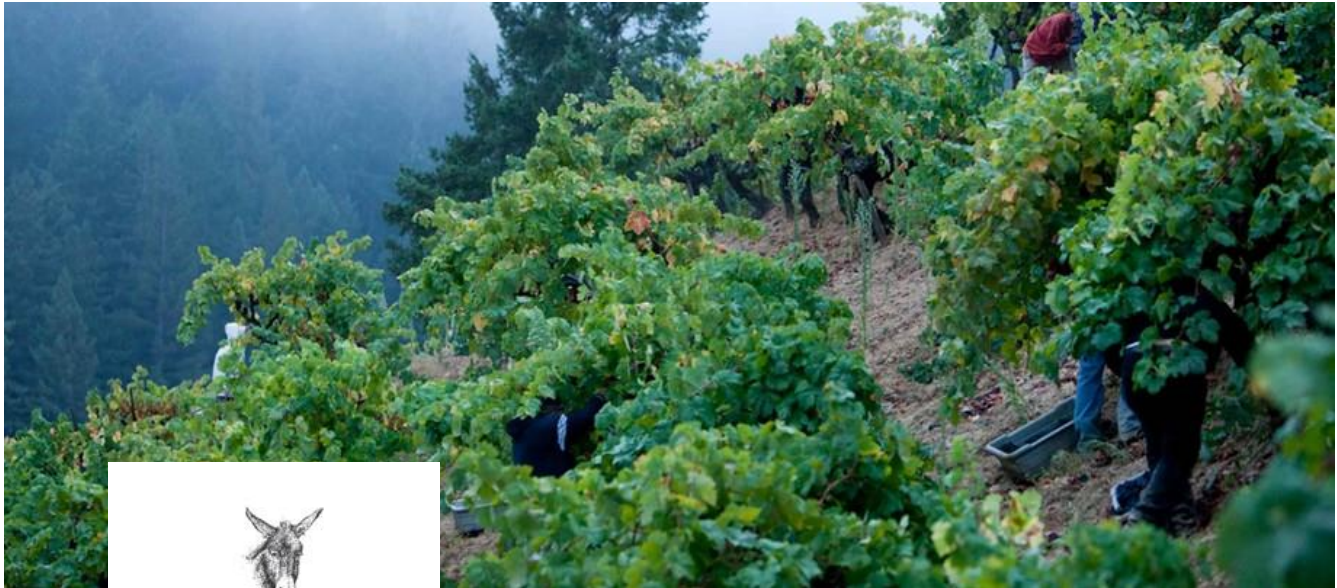




ZINFANDEL
JACKASS HILL • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2022



2022 Vintage

96 points – Audrey Frick, Jeb Dunnuck

94 points – Antonio Galloni, Vinous

2021 Vintage

98 points – Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

96 points – Audrey Frick, Jeb Dunnuck

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 total

Case Production: 74

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type: Franciscan, Goldridge

Rootstock: St. George

GROWING YEAR

The 2022 season started out with ideal conditions with early rains helping to push bud break into Spring. While we encountered instances of shatter (a grape berry fails to develop because of incomplete pollination) due to frost, this was limited to specific vineyards. Meticulous attention was given to addressing this issue, as we diligently assessed each block and thinned any clusters affected by shatter. Thankfully, the summer months offered the optimal combination of warm days and perfectly cool nights. However, Labor Day weekend launched what has been marked as one of the most heat-intensive 7-day periods on record for Sonoma County, resulting in a significant number of vineyards reaching their ripening stage simultaneously.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

This rugged vineyard is referred to by the Martinelli family as “Jackass Hill” because only a jackass would farm a hill that steep. Jackass Hill is the steepest non-terraced hillside vineyard in Sonoma County, boasting slopes of 65 degrees. Lee Sr. is the third generation Martinelli farmer to care-take the original family homestead land; farming the ancient vineyard much as his grandfather Giuseppe had in the 1880s, without irrigation, pesticides, or trellising.

TASTING NOTES

Stunning and beautiful aromas of fresh raspberries, stone fruit, and sweet barrel spice on the nose. Mouthcoating up on entry with a constantly evolving palate filled with the flavors of hibiscus tea, nectarine, and raspberry. A hint of white pepper enhances gorgeous finish.