

2010 ZIN BOLDLY OLD VINE ZINFANDEL ESTATE BOTTLED

Back in 1521, Martin Luther wrote in a letter to Phillip Melanchthon, "Be a sinner and sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ even more boldly, for he is victorious over sin, death and the world." We celebrate the spirit of Luther's advice with this Zin from a special vineyard planted more than forty years ago overlooking the Mokelumne River, flowing through the heart of Lodi, famed for the cultivation of Zinfandel. Spread the Word with this fine wine.

Tasting Notes

Combine old Lodi vines with a cool growing season and you've got the perfect storm for world-class Zinfandel. Everything about this wine suggests grilling at its finest: from an almost meaty chewiness to a *Knob Creek* bourbon roastedness, beginning with aromas of rich blackberries, figs, orange blossoms, bacon, and, perhaps, mint. And, taking a decidedly un-jammy turn in the glass, we find velvety and mouth-caressing pure, fresh and intense, tart juicy cherries right off the tree, bathed in pleasing acidity and fine, dusty tannins that soften within a couple of hours. There's underlying tobacco, bacon and violets, finishing off with the skin of ripe plums, spicy black licorice and a swirl of blackberry yogurt. Pair with some savory Chinese spareribs. (06/11/12)

Statistics

Appellation: Gill Creek Ranch, Clements Hills, Lodi (planted in 1968)

Blend: 100% Zinfandel

Harvested: September 28, 2010

Winemaking: Free-run juice only, 40% new French oak

Bottled: March 9, 2012

Alcohol: 15%

pH: 3.51

TA: 6.47 g/L

Cases Produced: 100