

2010 OLD VINE ZINFANDEL STEVE BORRA'S GILL CREEK RANCH VINEYARD ESTATE BOTTLED

This Zinfandel vineyard was planted more than forty years ago overlooking the Mokelumne River, and it benefits from Lodi's specific *terroir* so famed for the cultivation of Zinfandel. This is a wine that comes from the heart of our vineyard, where Steve Borra combines traditional Italian winegrape-growing with modern-day advances to nuture his vines. Grapes are picked only when perfectly ripe, then vinified leveraging the latest in high-end winemaking techniques.

Tasting Notes

Combine Lodi's famous old 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: 260

