

COMPOSITION 100% Estate Grown Zinfandel

VINEYARD SOURCE Mickey's Block, Brown Estate

Rosemary's Block, Brown Estate Nineties Block, Brown Estate

APPELLATION Chiles Valley District, Napa Valley

BARREL AGING 11.5 Months

12.5% 225-liter New French Oak 12.5% 225-liter New American Oak

ANALYSIS Alcohol: 15.2% / Total Acid: 0.67 / pH: 3.62

PRODUCTION 1605 cases in 12 x 750ml format

20 cases in 6 x 1.5L format

## GROWING SEASON

The 2003 growing season was memorable for its unpredictability. Cold weather and rain stalled vineyard growth, and the vintage got a late start due to a cool, wet spring. A very damp April necessitated intensive canopy management. Early rain and late heat spikes resulted in a lower overall yield but produced a vintage with high quality, great color concentration, and intense flavors. These conditions led to physiological ripening preceding sugar ripening. Uncharacteristically low yields resulted in superb quality and superior pulp and skin-to-juice ratio.

## TASTING NOTES

This generous and impeccably balanced wine displays a deep ruby hue with a violet flare at the edges. Its brilliant clarity in the glass signals a highly structured, polished and lush zinfandel. Subtle overtones of ground nutmeg and creamy vanilla on the nose add depth to hallmark Brown Estate notes of hibiscus flower and fresh fruit blossom. Gripping tannins give way to deep, concentrated flavors of black cherry and blueberry, with a hint of dried apricot on the long finish.