

# BROWN

NAPA VALLEY

## BROWN ESTATE 2008 RECLUSE ZINFANDEL

### Background

At harvest 2008, we embarked upon a new chapter in the storied history of Brown Estate zinfandel, setting out to create a “reserve” zin. This project was inspired by the tenth anniversary of our 1998 vintage – the third in our career as a producer – lost in its entirety to a warehouse fire in June 2000. As an homage to our lost '98 vintage, precisely ten years after we harvested it, winegrower Dave Brown selected by hand from the 2008 vintage a small lot of small-cluster berries – sourced from our Chiles Valley, Mickey's, Rosemary's & Westside zinfandel vineyard blocks – that was held back from our flagship Napa zin blend and lavished with prolonged cellaring. The proposition: To see what would become of the smallest, darkest, most intense zinfandel grapes we had grown that year if we left them in barrel beyond our standard 12-month zinfandel barrel aging cycle. Well, the verdict is in.

### Tasting Notes

Deep, dense, dark, and seductive with carnelian core and crimson rim, this wine captivates instantly with the promise of lush decadence. The nose bursts forth with an alluring bouquet of blackberry, boysenberry, and tangerine interwoven with subtle smoke, cedar wood, eucalyptus, saddle, and bay laurel. Following closely are exotic cascades of coriander, cinnamon, fennel, and clove, topped off by savory notes of grilled herbs, dried tobacco leaves, and gamey black currant. Time in the glass reveals glorious aromas of English toffee with caramel, praline, and crème anglaise. Mouthfeel is structural and complex with texture and depth reminiscent of a big mountain cabernet, yet with luscious fruit, lively acidity, and supple, sublime tannins that deliver magnificent, seamless balance. Drink now through 2022.

### Appellation

Napa Valley

### Barrel Aging

30 months in 30% new French oak

### Alcohol

14.9% by vol.

### Production

390 cases in 12 x 750ml format