

BROWN

NAPA VALLEY

BROWN ESTATE 2014 RECLUSE ZINFANDEL

Background

Our Recluse Zinfandel project represents a case study in the remarkably malleable nature of Zinfandel and its capacity to respond to lavish attention. We conceived of this “reserve” line of Zins with the intention of pushing the limits of refinement by using grapes that are hand-selected for their small size and deep intensity of flavor, and treating them to extended barrel aging in the finest French and American oak. The resulting wines demonstrate the capacity of Zinfandel, a distinctly new world varietal, to manifest lush texture and earthy old world characteristics.

This is our fifth vintage of Recluse Zinfandel. The first four (2008-2011) consisted of prized sections from the four heritage blocks on our property. The 2014 vintage is comprised exclusively of fruit from the easternmost section of our Westside vineyard, where it backs up to Mickey’s and Rosemary’s blocks. *This is one of three final Westside bottlings before that vineyard is retired following the 2016 harvest.*

Tasting Notes

Color recalls our 1996 Napa Zin, translucent garnet with soft scarlet rim. Billowing nose of rose perfume, potpourri, and Chinese five-spice precedes a lush backdrop of Bing cherry cola. Blue, black, and vibrant red fruit notes derive from adjacent Mickey’s and Rosemary’s blocks, softening into cherry and raspberry and ultimately revealing Westside’s characteristic strawberry bouquet. An evocative citrus element of orange Creamsicle (which occurs periodically in our Zins) mixes with traces of cocoa nib, cigar box, and flint. Mouthfeel is silky, generous, and remarkably elegant—a timeless beauty. Drink now through 2026.

Composition

100% Brown Estate Zinfandel

Appellation

Napa Valley

Vineyard Source

Westside block

Barrel Aging

24 months in 50/50 French/American oak
(30% new)

Alcohol

15% by vol.

Production

300 cases (12 x 750ml)