

BROWN

NAPA VALLEY

BROWN ESTATE 2016 MICKEY'S BLOCK ZINFANDEL

Composition	100% Estate Grown Zinfandel
Vineyard Source	Mickey's Block, Brown Estate
Appellation	Napa Valley
Barrel Aging	12 months in 30% new oak, 50/50 French/American
Alcohol	15.3% by vol.
Production	625 cases in 12 x 750ml format

Vineyard Source

Our Mickey's Block Zinfandel vineyard is located on the far west side of our property beside a seasonal stream at an elevation of 1100 ft. The soils are volcanic, rocky, and mineral rich, with ideal quantities of sand and clay. This tiny six-acre vineyard has long been coveted for its unusually small clusters and berry size, which provide maximum intensity due to the high ratio of skins to volume. Mickey's Block is our only Zinfandel vineyard with a north-south orientation. Shaded in the morning, it gets the afternoon and evening sun, and is subject to a diurnal shift in temperature during the ripening season that allows us to gain maximal extraction and intensity.

Tasting Notes

Unlike our 2016 Rosemary's Block Zin this wine is reticent on both nose and palate until it's held you captive a good fifteen minutes while its slow striptease reveals endless surprising layers. Brooding in every sense, from its deep plum color to its tight nose and palate, its opening foray on the nose is a punch of petrol fused with wet earth that gradually lifts to reveal herbaceous notes of eucalyptus and bayleaf, with a trace of graphite/gunpowder. Palate notes are dominated by not-quite-ripe blackberry and drunken plum. Secondary bouquet of vanilla, cotton candy, and s'mores evokes a phantom hint of chocolate. Sustained swirling and sniffing raise a fleeting waft of perfume along with late notes of spicebox and allspice. Mouthfeel is weighty and finish lingers with a slight grip. Calls for protracted exploration. Drink now through 2024+.