

BROWN

NAPA VALLEY

BROWN ESTATE 2019 PRIMITIVO

In 2009 our 10-acre Big Field vineyard, formerly planted entirely to Zinfandel, was replanted to include small blocks of Petite Sirah (3 acres), Primitivo (2 acres), and Tempranillo (1 acre). The latter two now are stand-alone wines in the Brown Estate lineup, the present vintage being our first estate Primitivo bottling after David discerned the 2018 fruit was showing distinctive and noteworthy characteristics. What comes forward in the resulting wine are high-definition spice notes — also present in more muted iterations in our estate Zinfandels — along with luxuriant fruit and floral notes and a hint of minerality. Primitivo and Zinfandel, both cloned from the same Croatian grape (known as Crljenak Kaštelanski), are something like fraternal twins. We look forward to seeing how this wine matures both on the vine and in the bottle, and we invite you to join us in tracking its development through this and subsequent vintages.

Technical

Composition: 100% Primitivo

Vineyard source: Brown Estate — Big Field Block

Appellation: Napa Valley

Barrel aging: 12 months in 45% new French oak

ABV: 14.9%

pH: 3.77

TA: 5.8 g/L

Production: 400 cases in 12 x 750ml format

Sensory

Eye: Magenta core, scarlet rim.

Nose: Violet, lilac, Chinese five spice, cardamom, kumquat zest. Secondary notes of red raspberry hard candy.

Palate: Medium body, grippy tannins (will soften in bottle with time). Texture reminiscent of ripe, fuzzy, juicy peach.

Pairing inspiration: Apple bacon stuffed pork chops or traditional fall holiday fare.

Cellar life: Drink now through 2035.