

BALLARD LANE

2014 PASO ROBLES

Zinfandel

ALCOHOL		14.0%
CASES		1286 CASES
pH		3.65
TA		5.62 G/L
WINEMAKER		RICHARD SHELTON

WINEMAKING NOTES

The classic American grape. As one of the original varieties of Paso Robles, Zinfandel is recognized as one of the highest quality reds with savory, rich and textured flavors. The rolling hills of Paso Robles, with warm days and moderate temperatures during the night, makes for ideal growing conditions for Zinfandel. The flavors and tannins develop throughout the lengthy growing season and harvest occurs at the time when the grapes are at optimum ripeness – intense varietal flavors, satin-like tannins and high natural acidity. This unique union of varietal and region ensure the wine's complexity and longevity.

Blackberry briar and smoked meats dominate the nose and are supported on the palate by plump, ripe fruits, cassis and cigar. The wine is subtle and spicy and is balanced by bright acidity with lengthy tannins. Medium-to-full bodied this is a wine that epitomizes California Zinfandel. Drink now or it will develop over the next few years.

The fruit was picked before dawn and then cold soaked for two days before fermentation in order to ensure a fruit forward wine and promote smooth tannins. Fermentation had extended extraction before undergoing malolactic fermentation

