



2019 Gamba Zinfandel Family Ranches


Russian River Valley

GROWING SEASON:

2019 was an exceptional winegrowing season in Sonoma County. Mild temperatures early in the growing season acclimated the grapes, with ideal temperatures that continued throughout the season, leading to the year's unhurried harvest producing outstanding grapes. Mother Nature put on a show in 2019, a year bookended by floods in Sonoma County and again with wildfire. Fortunately, neither had a negative impact on our vineyards. Even though 2019 was filled with twists and turns, we are very excited about our 2019 wines.

After record-breaking winter rainfall, a relatively cool spring followed, delaying bud break into late March and early April. Sonoma County experienced late rains into May that benefitted our dry farmed vines that rely on rain water as its only supply of irrigation. This was followed by a series of warm, mild days that carried on through September. The result was long hang time for the fruit, and outstanding flavors ready for harvest. The 2019 vintage results were incredible, with deeply colored wine hues, and well-balanced, bright, lively, full-flavored profiles. Mother Nature took another turn during the end of harvest, and temperatures changed dramatically. We were notified of our first red flag warning where temperatures were warming, the humidity was incredibly low and the winds are dangerously high. Our harvest was fortunately complete when the Kincadee fire began, which occurred in a remote northeastern rural area of Sonoma County in late October. The vintage will definitely be a harvest we will never forget for many reasons including the wildfires, however, all things considered, 2019 was a superior vintage.

We expect the wines of 2019 to be age worthy, with their nicely balanced structure and acidities.

 **NOTES:** 100% Indigenous yeast fermented Old Vine Zinfandel, 100% Russian River Valley, 80% American oak/ 20% French oak aged 18 mos., from dry farmed, organically grown, hand harvested, double hand-sorted fruit.

The wines have glorious fruit flavors, strong backbones and gorgeous color. We hope you will enjoy sharing them with family and friends as much as we enjoyed making them!

THE VINYARDS:

Sourced from several small, family-owned vineyards in the famed Russian River Valley. The Gamba Family Ranches Zinfandel is a cuvee of several old vine blocks, dating as far back as 1900, and select smaller, younger vine blocks- all organically grown and dry farmed. "Family Ranches" is our way of paying homage to the early wine grape growing pioneers, and the current hard-working generation of growers. To all that passionately tend their vines, cultivate low yields of exceptional fruit, sometimes in tiny quantities as a labor of love, carefully nurturing young, and meticulously preserving old vine vineyard blocks for our enjoyment now, and for that of future generations.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2019 Family Ranches Zinfandel is a bold expression of Zinfandel, yet remains balanced, fresh and lively, dancing nimbly on the palate. This dark hued wine shines brilliantly in the glass, with its lovely scarlet tones of color. As you swirl the glass, notes of brown spices and berries emerge in the nose, with hints of black olive. A burst of mouth filling medley of dark berry fruit engages the senses, highlighting raspberry, blueberry, leather and mild woody tones. The wine is medium to full in body, yet feels deliciously light on the palate, with a compelling, slightly leathery texture. The proportionate, bright acidity lifts the wine's feel on the palate, accenting the freshness of the fruit. A mouth-watering spiciness lingers on the finish, inviting the next tasting experience.

