

GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY

ESTATE GROWN | ORGANIC CERTIFIED

2020 ZINFANDEL, Miljenko's Old Vine, Napa Valley



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Alcohol	14.5% by volume
Fermentation	two weeks of skin contact; indigenous fermentation in stainless steel
Harvest date	Sept. 24 - Oct. 2, 2020
Sugar	24.2° Brix (average)
Bottling date	March 2022
Release date	January 2024
Total acid	5.8 g/L
pH	3.8
Time in oak	18 months
Type of oak	100 % French oak
Blend	91% Zinfandel 9% Petite Sirah



the vintage

2020 was a challenging but ultimately one of the most rewarding vintages for us. One of the hottest vintages on record with multiple heat waves well over 100 degrees, vintage 2020 was also accompanied by exceptionally low rainfall: 50-60% below average. Despite the heat and drought, our vines were well prepared for the stress. Due to low rainfall in 2020, the vines prepared themselves for drought by producing less leaves, which requires less water. The heat and drought produced exceptionally low yields but with excellent quality – great acid and freshness in white wines, and beautiful concentration and color in the reds.

the vineyard

Miljenko “Mike” Grgich’s home in Calistoga overlooks our small vineyard where the few rows of ancient Zinfandel vines that produce this wine were planted more than 100 years ago on St. George rootstock. Its northeast exposure catches plenty of morning light but is shaded from the hot, late afternoon sun while the vineyard’s gravelly loam soil allows the extensive roots to reach deep. We farm all of our certified organic vineyards naturally, using the principles of regenerative agriculture.

the wine

Our Miljenko's Old Vine Zinfandel opens with aromas of sweet black cherry, rose hip, and plum, accompanied by subtle undertones of myrrh and honeycomb. The texture is soft and embracing, featuring dense, satiny tannins. The flavors start with a profusion of red fruit, including blackberry, cherry, and currants, followed by red pepper and rosemary, contributing to the intricate and complex flavor profile. As the wine progresses, it becomes rich and flavorful, characterized by a juicy acidity that extends into a long, lingering finish.