

Frog's Leap

Discover the vibrant character and sophisticated complexity of the Frog's Leap Zinfandel, a wine that perfectly captures the essence of Napa Valley terroir.

FROG'S LEAP



Zinfandel 2020

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

Frog's Leap Zinfandel is sourced from the **Napa Valley**, particularly from the vineyards in **St. Helena**, a sub-region known for its ideal grape-growing conditions. The majority of the grapes come from the **White Barn** and **Molinari** vineyards, which are situated on the gravelly soils of the large alluvial fan that defines this appellation. These soils, combined with the region's Mediterranean climate, provide excellent drainage and optimal conditions for Zinfandel, fostering a balance of ripeness and acidity.

In addition to these primary vineyards, some grapes are sourced from **Ricetti Vineyard** in Redwood Valley, known for its gravelly-sandy alluvial loams, which contribute to the complexity and structure of the wine. The vineyards are **certified organic** and **dry-farmed**, emphasizing sustainability and the natural expression of the vine .

Winemaking

Frog's Leap Zinfandel is a blend of **85% Zinfandel**, **9% Petite Sirah**, and **6% Carignane**. The grapes were harvested between August 25 and September 25, 2020, under very dry and moderate conditions that turned hot during harvest. The Petite Sirah was picked first and cold-soaked for over a week before being combined with the Zinfandel during fermentation. This process helped to lower the fermentation temperature and enhance the phenolic profile of the wine.

This vintage features a higher-than-usual amount of Carignane, selected from some of the best old-vine sections. The wine was aged 55% in small concrete cubes and the remaining 45% in oak barrels for **10 months**, with no new oak used. This approach preserves the wine's freshness and emphasizes its natural fruit and spice characteristics .

Alcohol :14,30 %

Composition: 85% Zinfandel, 9% Petite Syrah, 6% Carignan

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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby red, indicative of its rich concentration.
- **Aroma:** Exuberant fruity aromas of **blackberry**, **plum**, and **raspberry** are complemented by hints of **spice**, **herbs**, and a touch of **earthiness**.
- **Palate:** On the palate, the wine is balanced and fresh, with flavors of **ripe red fruits**, **pepper**, and a subtle **smokiness**. The tannins are smooth and well-integrated, leading to a long, satisfying finish. The presence of Carignane adds a lively acidity and brightness to the blend .

Did you know?

The Frog's Leap Zinfandel is notable for its use of **concrete cubes** in the aging process, which enhances the wine's purity and freshness by allowing gentle oxygenation without imparting additional flavors from the oak. This method, combined with the high percentage of Carignane, results in a Zinfandel that is both vibrant and capable of aging gracefully .

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Barbecue Ribs:** The wine's robust fruit flavors and balanced acidity complement the smoky, savory notes of barbecued ribs.
- **Roasted Pork Loin with Herbs:** The fresh and spicy profile of the Zinfandel pairs well with the aromatic herbs and tender texture of roasted pork loin.
- **Grilled Vegetables:** The wine's bright acidity and fruitiness enhance the natural sweetness and char of grilled vegetables, such as bell peppers and zucchini.
- **Spicy Sausage Pizza:** The Zinfandel's bold flavors and smooth tannins balance the spiciness and rich toppings of a sausage pizza.

92 Wine&Spirits

Wines & Spirits (W&S) : 92 Points (2018)

Close your eyes, smell this wine, and you might think you've moved from Rutherford to Morgon. This wine has the kind of youthful impact of a great cru Beaujolais, then it settles into the plump richness of Napa Valley zin. Its mineral-driven tannins ground all the bright and zesty fruit, holding it tight, suggesting this has years of development ahead. A zin to hold. Best Buy

93 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 93 Points (2016)

The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Grown from Frog's Leap is dark, bold and luscious, with generous dark cherry, plum spice, leather. Forward and supple, the 2016 will drink well right out of the gate, and yet it also has enough freshness to age nicely for a number of years. In 2016, the Cabernet has gorgeous depth to play off a classic, mid-weight sense of structure. This is a positively joyous Cabernet Sauvignon from Frog's Leap. (AG) (12/2018)