

RIDGE 2020

EAST BENCH

ZINFANDEL

DRY CREEK VALLEY
SONOMA COUNTY

100% ZINFANDEL (organically grown)
14.8% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

Ridge has made the East Bench as a single vineyard since 2006, one of the few Ridge zinfandels that is 100% zinfandel. The vineyard sits high atop the bench land that overlooks Dry Creek Valley from the east.

FIRST RIDGE EAST BENCH: 2006

VINTAGE

Rainfall: 18 inches (below average)

Bloom: Late May

Weather: Rains in March and April helped the vines get through the summer. We were just starting harvest when the heat and fires hit in August.

Harvest Dates: 3 - 9 September

Grapes: Average Brix 27.3°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

Fermentation: Natural primary and natural secondary (malolactic) fermentations.

Barrels: 100% air-dried American oak barrels (10% new oak, 20% one-year-old, 20% two-year-old, 25% four-year-old, and 25% five-year-old).

Aging: Twelve months in barrel

pH: 3.68

TA: 6.8 g/L

Hand-harvested; estate-grown organic grapes; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the indigenous yeast, followed by a full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (50 ppm at crush, 74 ppm during aging); pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



RIDGE
VINEYARDS

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2020 Zinfandel, East Bench, bottled 12/2021

After a plentiful harvest in 2019, the vines set a very small crop in 2020. With fewer grapes on the vine, the zinfandel ripened quickly. All seven parcels of the vineyard were picked in the first week of September. The 2020 East Bench has plentiful fruit typical of the variety and the depth of flavor representative of the Dry Creek Valley. It will be at its best over the next ten years. JO (11/21)



SITE

East Bench Vineyard is located on the Eastern bench of Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County

Soils: Gravelly clay loam

Age of Vines: Planted in 2000

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned

Yields: 5 tons per acre

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