



Cortina Zinfandel represents our peak expression of Zinfandel from Dry Creek Valley. Named for the gravelly loam soils where this variety thrives, the heart of Cortina comes from Chen's Vineyard, planted by the Seghesio Family in 1972. Shrouded by morning fog and cooled by afternoon breezes, the grapes benefit from longer hang time, resulting in an elegant Zinfandel with lifted aromatics, bright layered fruit and refined structure.

VINTAGE

The 2018 growing season started off with slightly lower than average rainfall totals, however, due to their arrival in February and March the soils were near saturation during budbreak and heading into bloom. The onset of a moderately warm May and June led to prolific growth in the vines and a slightly above average crop level on the vines. June and July were above average in temperature which allowed veraison to progress from late July into August. Harvest was unseasonably cool, lacking the typical heat spells that come in early September. This allowed for a slower, methodical harvest, accentuating higher acidity and lower brix, ideal for our varietals! This wine was harvested between September 6th and 28th.

VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING

All grapes were hand picked and sorted at the winery, gently destemmed and transferred to small open-top fermentors without being pumped. The fermentations were macerated by pneumatic punch downs through out the fermentation on skins which lasted from 9 to 12 days. Free run juice was drained and settled briefly before being transferred to barrels to complete malolactic fermentation. (unfined) Aged 14 months in 75% French oak (15% new) and 25% American oak (100% neutral).

SIP & SAVOR

Aromas of lilac, wild blueberry tart, cedar and moss give way to bright acidity on the palate. Cortina Zinfandel features vibrant blue fruit and a touch of white pepper that carries through to the wine's long elegant finish. A perfect partner to this wine would be a rack or leg of lamb. The richness of the wine and the combination of berry and spice notes would meld perfectly with the lamb's rich and earthy flavor.

ANALYSIS

PH
3.76
ALCOHOL
15.2%
TA
5.7 grams/liter

KEY FACTS

- The heart of this wine comes from Chen's Vineyard, planted in 1972, making the vines nearly 50 years old
- Vineyards are planted to a combination of gravelly soils called Cortina, from which the wine gets its name
- V2017 received 94 points from Wine Spectator