

— R O B E R T —
BIALE
V I N E Y A R D S

4038 Big Ranch Rd., Napa, CA 94558

Ph: 707.257.7555 | www.biale.com

2021 Founding Farmers

Napa Valley Zinfandel

ORIGINAL ZIN

This delicious Zinfandel is a tribute to the wine pioneers of Napa Valley who were the first to plant Zinfandel. Across the board they selected vineyard sites that modern soil-savvy winemakers would consider ideal. We now appreciate that the original winemakers knew what they were doing by planting vines on the more elevated, rocky, gravelly, and sloped terrain that is so prized today by those who are pursuing greatness in wine. In this case, Founding Farmers is sourced mainly from grapes grown at Varozza Vineyard, and Old Kraft Vineyard – two of the oldest estates in St. Helena.

Vintage Notes: The growing season saw rain in January and February then almost no notable precipitation for the rest of the season. This provided an ideal environment for grapes to flower, bloom and set in early spring. Budbreak was early in April followed by flowering and bloom in May. The summer saw early and even ripening with no concerning heat spikes. Everything tended early thanks to the calm spring with veraison appearing in early July. Due in part to the drought, yields were naturally lower, resulting in less dropping of fruit in the vineyards. It was one of the earliest starts to harvest on record. Harvest kicked off with clear skies and almost no weather events to worry winemakers. This allowed the grapes to hang as long as winemakers wanted to achieve optimal ripening and taste.

Harvest Dates: September 7th and 16th

Winemaking: Our winemaking begins in the vineyard with meticulous attention to detail and close monitoring by Bob Biale and winemaker David Natali. Fruit is hand-harvested, sorted in the field, and sorted again at the winery. Destemmed, the grapes are then fermented in open top tanks with punch downs gently carried out two to three times per day. Pressed, the wine undergoes malolactic fermentation in 100% French oak barrels, of which 25% is new. Aged for 10 months in barrel.

Alcohol: 14.8%

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Exuberant notes of blackberry, cherry, and blueberries on the nose. The wine is youthful and medium bodied displaying cedar, orange peel, and plums along with a faint hint of slate on the palate. Mouthwatering acidity drive the length of the wine, as it finishes with delicate tannins.

Only 323 cases produced.