



4038 Big Ranch Rd., Napa, CA 94558  
Ph: 707.257.7555 | [www.biale.com](http://www.biale.com)

## 2021 Party Line North Coast Zinfandel

Party Line is a throwback to the old days of Zinfandel when California's wine-growing families made wine for every-day consumption. In old Napa, a teenaged egg and produce farmer named Aldo Biale employed the code name 'black chicken' on the neighborhood party line phone system to keep his bootleg jugs of homegrown and homemade Zinfandel a secret from neighbors and authorities. Vibrant and versatile, Robert Biale Vineyards' Party Line is a fully legal classic Zinfandel from vineyards within California's North Coast region.

**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 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>

**Winemaking:** Our winemaking begins in the vineyard with meticulous attention to detail and close monitoring by Bob Biale and winemaker David Natali. The winemaking philosophy is to grow our wines by concentrating our efforts all season long in the vineyard, so that when the fruit arrives at the winery, only minimal intervention is needed. We want the wines to speak of the soils from which they were grown.

The 2021 Party Line is comprised of fruit from Sonoma, Lake, and Solano counties, grown by family growers, frequently farming for multiple generations. Each lot is hand-harvested separately, 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 lots are blended and undergo malolactic fermentation in 100% French oak barrels, of which 15% is new. Aged for 10 months in barrel.

**Alcohol:** 14.8%

**Winemaker's Tasting Notes:** The 2021 Party Line Zinfandel is a fun and lighthearted red wine that is made to enjoy now. Generous aromas of raspberry and strawberry along with hints of baking spice fill the glass. Round and rich on the palate with notes of black cherries and plum, the wine finishes with fine-grain tannins.

1,555 cases produced.