

LITTLE

8

OTTIMINO

SINGLE VINEYARD ZINFANDEL

ALL SMALL, ALL DRY FARMED - ALL RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

WINE ENTHUSIAST

BUYING GUIDE – JULY 2008

92 PTS OTTIMINO VINEYARDS ZINFANDEL, OTTIMINO VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VLY 2004

“The vineyard is in a cooler part of the valley, out near Occidental, so even in this hot vintage, you can taste the acidity coaxed out of the grapes by the chilly winds and fogs off the Pacific. Yet the wine is not unripe, but shows *interesting, complex flavors* of wild berries, mocha, Dr. Pepper, licorice and dusty Asian spices. *Notable for its balance and elegance.*” **EDITORS’ CHOICE.** S.H.

90 PTS OTTIMINO VINEYARDS ZINFANDEL, RANCHO BELLO VYD, RUSSIAN RIVER VLY 2004

“*With this single-vineyard Zin, released alongside their Ottimino Vineyard bottling, the winery puts itself squarely on the Zinfandel map.* This wine has the *wild, briary exuberance you want in the variety*, with deep, robust flavors of blackberries, plums, carob, Asian spices and balsam and a savory hint of raisins. *It’s a big, powerful wine, best paired with grilled meats and hard cheeses.*” S.H.



DECEMBER 2008

92 PTS OTTIMINO VINEYARDS ZINFANDEL, OTTIMINO VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VLY 2005

✿✿✿ “From its intense, wild-berry aromas to its concentrated, keenly defined, eminently fruity flavors, *this very deep and impressively filled effort hits the varietal mark smartly.* It is full and fleshy in feel and *always quite well-balanced*, and it shows off a fair bit of grippy last-minute tannins without losing its fix on fruit. It is very much built along table wine lines, and it has all the makings of a Zinfandel that will improve for a good half-dozen years.”

95 PTS OTTIMINO VINEYARDS ZINFANDEL, VON WEIDLICH VYD, RUSSIAN RIVER VLY 2005

✿✿✿✿ “Mixing evident ripeness with a big dollop of blackberryish fruitiness in its balanced, slightly briary, woody aromas, this well-assembled effort makes good use of its green berry acidity and light tannins to provide a firm underbelly to its otherwise open flavors. It has a few years of aging potential but will serve perfectly well now alongside grilled pork chops, pastas in red sauces and chile verde. *With balance, precision and depth, this one is a winner.*”

Wine & Spirits
MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2009 “YEAR’S BEST ZINFANDELS”

90 PTS OTTIMINO VINEYARDS ZINFANDEL, RANCHO BELLO VYD, RUSSIAN RIVER VLY 2005

“Deep and plummy, this wine is saturated with black fruit flavor. Tannins add mineral detail and warmth to the velvet texture, *as if the vines were extracting honey from rock.* A dark and smoky wine to serve with seared duck breast.”

For more information about Ottimino Wines visit www.vintagepoint.com/Ottimino