

OTTIMINO

Von Weidlich Vineyard

2007 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY ZINFANDEL



The old vines at Robert Von Weidlich's vineyard trace their Zinfandel legacy back to the late 19th century. Robert's first planting in 1937 utilized budwood from an 1884 vineyard farmed by the Morelli family, who had developed most of the ridge along the Harrison Grade. Robert later extended the heritage of these vines by selecting budwood from his planting and filling out the balance of his vineyard. The vines are all head-trained and cane-pruned in traditional fashion, though some blocks have the head trained to different heights to offset reflective heat.

VINEYARDS

These delicate old vines seemed to find the fountain of youth in 2007. Warm, dry and temperate weather fostered an excellent fruit set, while hotter August weather pushed the vines through a steady, even veraison. When temperatures cooled in mid-September, the von Weidlich fruit luxuriated in another full month of hang time.

WINEMAKING

We harvested on October 19. The de-stemmed fruit was lightly crushed and cold-soaked for two days prior to inoculation. To promote early extraction of color and tannin, the wine was pumped over three times per day with additional cap punchdowns before peak fermentation. After an additional ten days on the skins, the new wine was pressed and racked to barrel immediately to preserve both the deep color and the spicy fruit. The wine was aged in French oak and racked quarterly. As is our norm, no fining was employed.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of blackberry, black cherry and black plum, typical of Von Weidlich Zinfandel, are augmented with cinnamon spice and well-integrated oak and toast. Flavors are thick with blackberry, dried currant, and cherry compote. The broad mid-palate features concentrated fruit and big, soft tannins, a prelude to the lingering finish that resonates with pure Zinfandel varietal character.

Production Details

Blend:	100% Zinfandel
Vineyard:	Von Weidlich
Appellation:	Russian River Valley
Cooperage:	Francois Freres, Roberts, & Demptos
Aging:	21 months
Barrel Age:	50% new, 50% 1 year old
Production:	663 cases

Analytical Data

Harvested:	October 19, 2007
Brix:	23.8
TA:	7.1g/L
pH:	3.57
Bottled:	August 21, 2009
TA:	5.8g/L
pH:	3.79