

2021 PRIMITIVO NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARD Hendry Blocks 10 and 24 are located on bench lands west of the town of Napa. Both blocks are approximately 200 feet above sea level, with thin, stony soils of alluvial and metavolcanic material. The maritime climate is moderated at Hendry by morning fog and strong afternoon breezes from San Pablo Bay.

BLOCK The vines in Block 24 were planted in 1997, using St. George roots, and grafted with U.C. Davis Primitivo Clone 3. The vines are spaced 6.9' x 5', cordon-trained and spur-pruned. Block 10 was planted with the same clone in 2003. A vertical trellis system supports the cordon and the canopy.

HISTORY Primitivo's roots go back hundreds of years to Croatia, where it originated along with its more familiar genetic twin: Zinfandel. Zinfandel and Primitivo share common parentage. Primitivo is now associated with Puglia, Italy, where it is commonly grown, and Zinfandel with California.

VINTAGE In 2021, budbreak in Blocks 10 and 24 occurred April 7^{th} . Bloom was May 23^{rd} and harvest in both blocks was on September 13^{th} , with an average bloom-to-harvest of 113 days. Average yield was 2.45 tons per acre.

WINEMAKING Alcoholic fermentation for the Primitivo was completed in approximately ten days in closed, stainless steel fermentation tanks. After completing alcoholic fermentation, the wine was pressed and put into barrels for malolactic fermentation. Aging was fifteen months in French oak barrels, approximately one-third of which were new.

NOTES Ruby color. Aromas of dried berries, sweet dried basil, bay and cocoa-dusted cherries. Medium-full on the palate with ripe and tangy flavors of berry and sour cherry. Bittersweet finish, with dark cocoa tannins that quickly dissipate. Full-flavored, fruit-driven, warming. A versatile wine to pair with dishes with tomato and/or savory characteristics: caramelized onion and gorgonzola flatbread, goat cheese and eggplant lasagna, pizzas and pastas with rich tomato sauces, and grilled meats, chicken and veggies.

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Alcohol 15% 692 cases produced TA: 7.1 VA: .88