



2019 ZINFANDEL

LUVISI VINEYARD

- Release Date:** September, 2021
- Production:** 10 Barrels
- Varietal:** 100% Zinfandel
- Vineyard:** Luvisi Vineyard,
Calistoga AVA, Napa Valley
- Winemaking:** Justin and Seana Stephens, Proprietors
Kirk Venge, Winemaker
- Cooperage:** Aged for 18 months in both French and American oak, 30% new.
- Vintage Notes:** 2019 as a vintage was full of unique and unexpected character. A cool spring and late rains well into May had us on edge as we nervously kept vigil against frost and shatter in the vineyards, fearing a repeat of the unseasonably cool 2011 vintage. Thankfully, summer arrived with its desired warmth, but with the harshest heat held at bay, allowing for a long, warm, and even ripening season. This was especially appreciated along the eastern side of the valley where the late afternoon sun lingers longest, and heat spikes are most perilous.
- Vineyard Notes:** Situated on the eastern side of the valley and at the base of the Palisades range in Calistoga, the Luvisi vineyard was originally planted in 1908 and is farmed by brothers Don and Clarence Luvisi. Our block was an expansion to their original site which was planted in 1952 and sits in a mix of gravel and ancient riverbed loam soils. It is a remarkably consistent, head trained and dry farmed site that has remained a favorite source of ours for over a decade.
- Tasting Notes:** Bright notes of raspberry, strawberry rhubarb crumble, vibrant florals and softer more hidden notes of fresh pine and sage fill the glass and usher in a rich medley of wild berries at the front of the palate. This lively and berry dominated focus is carried by bright, welcoming acidity to a long fruity finish framed by soft whispers of tannin and hints of graham cracker pie crust, cinnamon, and clove.
- Aging Advice:** Zinfandel is fantastic in its youth and is meant to be enjoyed and shared, so ultimately the right time to open this wine is whenever the mood strikes. This is especially true of the 2019 vintage as the purity of fruit on display in youth is second to none. That said, there is still strong aging potential for this and all of our 2019 vintage wines, as that fruit focus will allow for ample evolution and refinement over the next 5+ years.