



# CASTORO

## CELLARS

### ESTATE ZINFANDEL 2020

Sourced from our organically certified Zinfandel vineyards, these grapes get a lot of sunshine for full ripening and flavor development. Some Petite Sirah is incorporated into this wine to offer more structure. This Zinfandel has a full, yet round mid-palate with a pleasant lingering finish. Flavors of plum, blackberry, and spice with soft tannins. Enjoy this fruit-forward wine with your favorite pasta dish or grilled meat entrée.

- NIELS & BIMMER UDSEN, Founders

#### HARVEST NOTES:

2020 – that might be enough said! Everything about this year has been unforeseeable. Luckily the grapes were somewhat immune. Spring was on time with very little threat or damage from frost followed by a long and moderate growing season. We did get a hot spell that reduced the grapes on the vine and some areas struggled. Worse were the fires that caused smoke to hang in the air for days. We were extremely worried about a potentially memorable vintage ruined by smoke taint. We tested everything and are confident we dodged a bullet. Whew! Look forward to full bodied reds and aromatic whites.

#### WINEMAKER NOTES:

Zinfandel needs good ripeness to make a wine worthy of its name. It can often be a race to get ripeness in Zinfandel from our westside vineyards before rain or frost arrives. On top of this is the characteristic of Zinfandel to not ripen evenly. In 2020 we harvested Zinfandel over the course of ten days to ensure optimum ripeness for each lot. The fermentation is followed closely to assure that fruit characteristics are balanced with tannin-related astringency. We prefer a dry style of Zinfandel with no residual sugar. Aging is done in small American oak barrels but not for as long of a duration as other heavier varieties. In this vintage, I have incorporated some estate Petite Sirah for added structure.

- TOM MYERS, Winemaker

#### TASTING NOTES:

**APPEARANCE:** Dark red

**AROMA:** Plum, raspberry, violets, pepper and tobacco

**PALATE:** Ripe plum, blackberry, spice, rich mid palate and oak on the finish

#### TECHNICAL NOTES:

**VARIETAL:** 86% Zinfandel, 14% Petite Sirah

**VINEYARD SOURCES:** Whale Rock, Cobble Creek, Blind Faith **AVA:** Paso Robles

**HARVEST DATE:** Mid-October 2020 **BOTTLING DATE:** September 21, 2021

**HARVEST SUGAR:** 26.0° brix **OAK:** American **OAK AGE:** 8 months

**ALCOHOL:** 14.5% **TA:** 0.61 g. 100ml **pH:** 3.8

