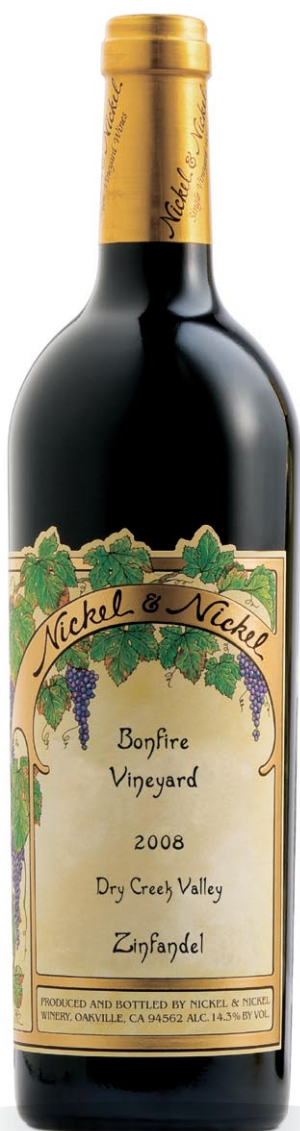




2008 BONFIRE VINEYARD

Zinfandel, Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Located in the Dry Creek Valley, Bonfire Vineyard is situated on two rolling hills that are positioned to receive maximum sunlight exposure during the day. The soils are composed of a gravelly loam fused with red components that come from oxidized iron, which is indicative of ultra premium Zinfandel vineyards in the area. While the weather is warmer in this area than in the Russian River Valley, the marine influence still provides a natural acidity that produces a wine of excellent proportion.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2008 growing season provided a variety of weather patterns that presented a few challenges, but ultimately resulted in some exciting wines. The year began with substantial rainfall, but was followed by a dry spell that actually put us behind normal precipitation levels. The longest frost season in decades followed, which lowered vineyard yields, but the remaining crop developed beautiful intensity. Very warm temperatures in mid-May gave way to a cool summer and warm September. This vineyard was among the first Nickel & Nickel vineyards to be harvested.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2008 vintage is marked with a wonderful depth of flavor and rich, juicy tannins. This Bonfire Zinfandel provides a combination of ripe, jammy fruits, combined with, toasty French oak. Raspberry and blackberry fruits laced with black pepper, vanilla and cedar complete the layered flavor profile, while the middle palate is thick and juicy.

APPELLATION

Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma

VARIETAL

100% Zinfandel

AGING

French oak barrels
(42% new, 58% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

April 2011

HARVEST DATE

September 15, 2008

SKIN CONTACT

15 days

TIME

16 months

FIRST VINTAGE

2005

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