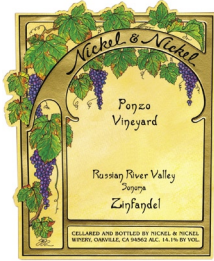


Nickel & Nickel
N&N
Single Vineyard Wines

PONZO VINEYARD ZINFANDEL
2006

technical notes:



Appellation: Russian River Valley, Sonoma

Harvest Date: October 10 - 17, 2006

Varietal: 100% Zinfandel

Skin Contact: 8 - 10 days

Aging: French oak barrels
(42% new / 58% once-used)

Time: 14 months

Release Date: April 2008

First Vintage: 1997

vineyard description:

Located in Sonoma's Russian River Valley, the 33-acre Ponzo Vineyard grows Zinfandel from old, Italian head-trained vines planted around 1920, near the onset of Prohibition. The climate is cool and mild due to the coastal influences, morning fog, and breezy conditions that last throughout the summer. Nickel & Nickel's 11-acre block is planted on sandy loam soil and is dry farmed, producing deeply concentrated fruit.

harvest notes:

The 2006 growing season was two weeks behind the year before, with bloom in early June and veraison in early August. Crop loads were much lighter which proved to be a good thing since cooler weather during the season yielded high botrytis pressure. Despite a few heat waves in June and July, the temperatures were moderate with morning fog keeping things cool. We had to wait until mid-October before the fruit developed the nice raspberry flavors that we desire from this vineyard. Harvest crews worked at a very slow speed, ensuring that each cluster was inspected before putting it into the bins, and the winery personnel also inspected each cluster, pulling out any unwanted fruit in an effort to maximize quality. The extra effort put forth by both crews this year is the key to this wine's success.

sensory evaluation:

The signature of the Ponzo Vineyard is apparent in this 2006 vintage. Raspberry flavors with layers of white pepper, vanilla and spice are apparent in both the aroma and on the palate. This wine is a very elegant Zinfandel with its sweet, jammy fruits and spicy flavors offering a nice warmth and finesse. The toasty oak complements those sweet impressions and the firm, yet supple, tannins carry into a long, balanced finish.

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