



## Jackass Hill Zinfandel | Russian River Valley 2019

### GROWING YEAR

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The 2019 season was overall very cool with record rainfall for Sonoma County in February. The vines however were not affected by this because they were still dormant at the time. Similar to the 2018 season, spring and summer were moderate in temperature and ripening developed gradually and under minimal stress. This year was in fact so similar to 2018 that we began harvest the same day, on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately another wildfire hit the region at the end of October, but luckily none of our vineyards were affected. The winery and many employees were evacuated, but we were able to keep an eye on the new vintage with a skeleton crew. The quality was not impacted and we are very excited at the concentration of flavors in this vintage.

### VINEYARD CHARACTER

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This rugged vineyard is referred to by the Martinelli family as “Jackass Hill”, because only a jackass would farm a hill that steep. Jackass Hill is the steepest non-terraced hillside vineyard in Sonoma County, boasting slopes of 65 degrees. Lee Sr. is the third generation Martinelli farmer to care-take the original family homestead land; farming the ancient vineyard much as his grandfather Giuseppe had in the 1880s, without irrigation, pesticides or trellising.

### TASTING NOTES

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In the 2019 Jackass Hill Zinfandel inviting aromas of nectarine, strawberry and wild flowers fill your nose. Elegant tannin structure and flavors of bergamot, raspberry, and white peach add a depth to the palate that is truly unique.



MARTINELLI

JACKASS HILL

#### 2019 Vintage

- 98 points - Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate
- 95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous

#### 2018 Vintage

- 97+ points - Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate
- 94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous

#### 2017 Vintage

- 98 points - Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate
- 95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous

Winemaker: Courtney Wagoner

Consulting Winemaker:  
Erin Green

Case Production: 101