

BUEHLER VINEYARDS

(NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA)

www.buehlervineyards.com



Buehler Vineyards is a small, family-owned winery located in the mountains east of St. Helena in Napa Valley. Situated north of Pritchard Hill and Conn Valley, near the base of Howell Mountain, our hillside vineyards are planted primarily to Cabernet Sauvignon, with smaller blocks of old-vine Zinfandel.

Our family has been farming this beautiful estate for thirty-six years. We combine that experience and the unique terroir of our hillside vineyards with low yields, meticulous vineyard management, and minimalist winemaking techniques to create wines of uncommon complexity and depth, and to present these wines to wine lovers at reasonable prices.

Napa Valley Zinfandel 2020

CSPC# 714963

750mlx12

14.9% alc./vol.

Chemical Analysis Acidity: 5.8 g/l pH: 3.59 Residual Sugar: .5g/l
Grape Variety 95% Zinfandel, 5% Petite Sirah

Winemaker David Cronin

Vintage The early 2020 Napa Valley growing season was notable for the warm, dry conditions that persisted through late February. It wasn't until March that we welcomed cool, wet weather; the late Spring rains supplied the wakening vines with the water they needed for their rapid Spring growth. No discussion of the 2020 vintage would be complete without mention of the multiple wildfires that tore through wine country starting August 17 after a series of thunderstorms rolled through the state culminating in multiple fires ignited by the associated lightning strikes. The Hennessey fire was the closest to Buehler Vineyards, but we were spared the ravages of smoke on our wines since the prevailing winds pushed the fire to the east of us. The Glass fire, which started September 27 and burned just to the west of us, forced us to evacuate the winery for several days. Fortunately, we had completed the Zinfandel and Cabernet harvest on the estate by then, so the resulting wines were unscathed by the smoke.

Vineyards The grapes we chose for our 2020 Buehler Vineyards Napa Valley Zinfandel came exclusively from our low-yielding estate vineyards. Dry-farmed for over 33 years, our 4.5-acre estate block consists of mature forty-six-year-old vines which typically give us around 2.5 tons/acre of beautiful hillside Zinfandel fruit. Interspersed among the head-trained vines are a handful of Petite Sirah vines representing perhaps 5% of the total vines in this block. A traditional field companion to Zinfandel in pre-prohibition California vineyards, Petite Sirah contributes pepper, color, and tannin structure to the wine.

**Vinification/
Maturation** Our Zinfandel was aged for 12 months in a combination of French and American oak barrels, 20% of which were new. At this level of "new wood", the up-front endearing quality of Zinfandel can assert itself.

Tasting Notes Aromas of a briar patch on a hot summer day carry over to the palate and are carried in a mouth-filling, deeply layered, juicy package.

Serve with Concentrated and intense, this Zinfandel explodes on the palate with dark fruit, dark chocolate, black pepper, and spice. This wine is full-bodied and would make an excellent match for BBQ and other grilled meats.

Production 1140 cases produced.

Cellaring The wine was crafted for immediate enjoyment but for those who enjoy a more complex wine displaying some bottle-aged character, aging for another two to three years is a good option.

Scores/Awards **90 points** - Tim Fish, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2023



Reviews *“Focused and plump, with zesty cherry flavors that are accented with licorice and savory spices and build toward fine-grained tannins. Drink now through 2029. 1,140 cases made.”*
- TF, [winespectator.com](https://www.winespectator.com)
