

## Appellation

Lodi - Mokelumne River AVA

# **Growing Philosophy**

As the saying goes, "Cab is King." This mindset and economic reality has led to many of the finest Old Vine Zinfandel vineyards being removed and replanted to Cabernet Sauvignon. While these vineyards provided optimal settings for Zinfandel, they do not often produce the same quality with Cabernet. Our philosophy is to keep our treasured Old Vine Zinfandel and search for microclimates that are appropriate

for Cabernet Sauvignon to highlight the unique impact of Lodi's terroir on the varietal. Exploring sites within the esteemed Victor Triangle area of the Mokelumne River AVA where well-drained sandy loam soils impart lavish blackcurrant fruit qualities and distinctive perfume aromatics.

# Vineyard Highlights

Bechthold Vineyard (planted in 1983) - Originally planted in 1886 to Cinsault, some of which remains today, the Bechtold vineyard is the oldest continuously producing vineyard site in Lodi. Likewise, the 42 year old Cabernet Sauvignon block is among the oldest in the region. With consistent vine-ripening year after year, this vineyard yields some of the best wine-grapes harvested every season. Located behind the Klinker Brick Tasting Room, this 4.5 acre parcel is drip-irrigated, and runs east to west on a bilateral trellis.

# Vintage Notes

The 2022 growing season began with ideal weather conditions complete with early rains followed by a crisp spring and warm summer. As a result, grape clusters were smaller, increasing flavor concentration and leading to ideal acidity. The region experienced a mild heat wave towards the end of August, creating some urgency to get select varietals into the winery, however Cabernet was not impacted. Harvest

continued into November at which point we harvested our final Cabernet lots.

All varietals were brough in with top quality marks, and optimal characteristics persisted through fermentation and bottle aging making 2022 an exemplary vintage.

### Winemaking

The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes are immediately pressed, fermented, and sent to barrel-age in french oak. This particular vineyard exhibits top-quality characteristics from the beginning that allow us to use a minimal approach once in the barrel. 16 months on oak proves to be ideal for this full-bodied Caberbet Sauvignon resulting in a beautiful bottle of wine.

### **Taste**

The 2022 Cabernet Sauvignon exhibits dark garnet color and a complex structure. On the nose, leather aromas are accompanied by hints of subtle baking spice and clove. You are greeted with notes of plum and cherry on the palate. Fully integrated and well balanced, this wine has great tannin with a long, lingering finish.

## Vital Statistics

*Maturation* 16 Months French Oak Alcohol 14.8% Cooperage Seguin Moreau **PH** 3.66 Harvest Date October 6, 2022 *TA* 6.4 g/L **Brix** 25.7°



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Mokelumne

Clements

Lodi AVA





