

Chiarito

2004

ZINFANDEL

CHIARITO VINEYARD

**JOHN CHIARITO
OWNER & WINEMAKER**

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Chiarito Vineyard is a small-production artisan winery nestled in the benchlands of the eastern Ukiah Valley in Mendocino County. The 2004 Zinfandel contains 89% Zinfandel and 11% Petite Sirah fruit, both of which are estate-grown on head-trained and dry-farmed vines yielding 3 tons per acre. The fruit was harvested in the early morning of September 26. Production is 380 cases.

This wine exemplifies the grape's black-fruit profile, adding licorice and dark toast to blackberry and cherry flavors. In the mouth the wine delivers the natural brambly complexity and aliveness so loved by Zin fans. The wine is structured for a fruit-filled but balanced entry on the front end and a nice expansion and lift into the aftertaste.

VINIFICATION AND AGING

Method of extraction: Cold-soaked for 4 days; 3 punchdowns daily

Length of maceration: Fermented in small batches for 7 days

Aging container: French oak barrels for 21 months

Filtered: Unfiltered

Fining: Egg white fined

Racking: 4

ANALYTICAL DATA

Alcohol content: 15.1%

TA: .67

p.H.: 3.61

SALES

Direct only