

## 2006 OLD VINE ZINFANDEL – SONOMA COUNTY



**91 Points, EDITORS' CHOICE**  
*Wine Enthusiast Magazine*

**91 Points**  
*The Wine News*

**88 Points, ONE PUFF**  
*Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine*

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
*California Grapevine*



### HISTORY

First coined by winery founder David Stare in 1986, the phrase “Old Vine” has special meaning to our family. We define an old vine vineyard as being more than 50 years in age. In the case of our Old Vine Zinfandel, the vines for this bottling are more than 85 years of age and in some cases, more than 110 years! Old Vine vineyards remain the most prized and historic of all plantings in the Dry Creek Valley.

### GROWING SEASON

The 2006 vintage started out very rainy. A long and cool spring followed. During July and August, we experienced two rather extreme heat spikes. The harvest season was excellent, albeit rather warm. Moderate temperatures arrived in October just in time giving us balanced Merlot grapes.

### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Old Vine Zinfandel carries special meaning at our family winery. The term, originally coined by founder David Stare, refers to special “old vine” vineyards located in and around the Dry Creek Valley. With vines averaging more than 80 years in age, the 2006 vintage displays incredible aromas of black stone fruit that ooze lushness and richness. On the palate the wine is dense and concentrated with classic briary and raspberry flavors along with the wine’s signature cardamom spice complexity. The finish incorporates smoky vanilla notes from the French oak, leading to a long and satisfying aftertaste. A blockbuster Zin!

RELEASE DATE	November 1, 2008
BLEND	84% Zinfandel, 16% Petite Sirah
APPELLATION	Sonoma County
HARVEST DATES	September 26 – October 18, 2006
ALCOHOL	14.5%
BRIX	Average 35.0
FERMENTATION	Fermented 20 days at 85°F.
PH	3.82
TA	0.56g/100mL
BARREL AGING	18 months in French and American oak, 46% new oak
SOILS	Hillside vineyards, mixed gravelly soil. Decomposed granite in certain areas.
VINE AGE	Average age is 85 years
YIELDS	Less than 2 tons per acre
RESIDUAL SUGAR	Dry