OUTPOST

Outpost Howell Mountain Grenache
2024

Our Grenache comes entirely from our estate property located at 2,200 feet in elevation. Outpost grapes are harvested late in the season - by hand, at midnight - to preserve the full intensity and distinctive spicy character of the mountain fruit. Wines are neither fined nor filtered allowing for the full expression of the vintages' potential. This wine shows the earthy, contemplative side of Grenache.

The vintage

The 2024 vintage in Napa Valley, particularly on Howell Mountain, unfolded as a season of dynamic contrasts. Generous winter rainfall replenished water reserves and supported vigorous, healthy vine growth. Elevated sites such as Outpost and True Vineyard, situated above the valley floor, benefited from excellent drainage and remained well protected from the storms below.

A notably warmer summer naturally limited yields while enhancing fruit intensity and concentration. A welcome cooling period in September allowed for steady flavor development and refined tannin maturity, followed by early October warmth that brought the fruit to optimal ripeness and guided a timely harvest across both vineyards.

Careful vineyard management and meticulous sorting resulted in smaller quantities, but exceptional quality. The wines reveal deep color, impressive concentration and a harmonious balance, with beautifully ripe, polished tannins that express both the power and elegance known of Howell Mountain.

Tasting Notes

The 2024 Grenache balances bright red fruit with an unmistakably savory mountain character. Aromas of wild strawberries and cream, lead into flavors of strawberry jam, dried cherries, fennel and toasted anise. Dense yet energetic, the palate is supported by vibrant acidity, creating a wine of remarkable balance and persistence.

"A convincing argument for this temperamental variety in certain parts of Napa Valley, Outpost's 2024 Grenache was made using entirely whole clusters and spent 24 days on skins before being drained to neutral barrels for maturation. Strawberries and raspberries are joined by a slightly herbal-wiry-licorice note in this full-bodied wine, which is supple and round in the mouth, with a long, silky finish." *RobertParker.com, Joe Czerwinski, 94 Points*

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Technical Information

Blend: 100% Alban 2 Clone of Grenache
Ageing: 13 months in 100% neutral oak, using Burgundy barrels (228L) and two neutral puncheons
Production: 291 cases
Consulting Winemaker: Thomas Rivers Brown
Winemaker: Tommy Ufland