



O U T P O S T

2005 OUTPOST HOWELL MOUNTAIN ZINFANDEL NAPA VALLEY

RELEASE DATE	SEPTEMBER 2007
APPELLATION	HOWELL MOUNTAIN ELEVATION 2,200 FEET ABOVE THE NAPA VALLEY FLOOR
WINEMAKER	THOMAS RIVERS BROWN
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% ZINFANDEL
PRODUCTION	1,000 CASES
ALCOHOL	16.1%
COOPERAGE	33% NEW FRENCH OAK BARRELS 67% 1-3 YEAR OLD BARRELS

WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES

"GIVEN OUR YIELDS RAN COUNTER TO MOST OF THE VALLEY, THE RESULTING WINES REFLECT THE DENSITY THAT SMALL CROPS ARE CAPABLE OF. IS THE 2005 ZINFANDEL THE DARKEST, RICHEST, SAPPYEST, MOST FORWARD OUTPOST YET? WE'RE NOT SURE IT'S UP TO US TO SAY. IT'S BLACKER HUED THIS YEAR FOR SURE WITH A STRONG STREAK OF BLACKBERRY CREAM THAT USUALLY TAKES A FEW YEARS IN BOTTLE TO DEVELOP. THE BRAMBLY SPICE/PEPPER COMBO IS PRESENT AS ALWAYS BUT THIS YEAR'S VERSION SEEMS TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN FRUIT AND SPICE MUCH EARLIER THAN PREVIOUS EDITIONS. THE FRUIT PROFILE ALSO LEANS MORE TOWARD BLACK THAN RED WHICH TENDS, AND MAYBE IT'S JUST PSYCHOLOGICAL, TO TRANSLATE AS RICHER AND MORE FORWARD. CROP LEVELS COULD ALSO BE BEHIND THIS OR FULL PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY THROUGH TRUE RIPENING. IN TRUTH IT'S PROBABLY ELEMENTS OF ALL OF THE ABOVE."

—THOMAS BROWN,

STEPHEN TANZER'S INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

"GOOD FULL RUBY. BRIARY DARK RASPBERRY, PLUM SYRUP, MOCHA, DRIED SAGE AND WHITE PEPPER ON THE AROMATIC NOSE. BIG AND LUSH YET FAIRLY SUAVE FOR ZINFANDEL, WITH BRIARY DARK FRUIT AND SPICE FLAVORS AND A FLESHY, PLIANT TEXTURE. THIS ONE BENEFITS FROM AN EXCELLENT ACID/TANNIN BACKBONE."

--91 POINTS

