

CHATEAU MONTELENA

ESTATE ZINFANDEL

2012

Nose Aromas of Bing cherry, blackberry, and fig merge with tobacco, flint, and a hint of sage.

Palate There is a certain rusticity in the chalky tannin foundation that dances in and out of focus amidst the bright acidity, dark mocha, and kirsch.

Finish The latent minerality intensifies on the finish contrasting and balancing subtle notes of black pepper and toast.

Vintage Weather

Not a hot or incredibly early vintage like '96 or '87, respectively, the weather cooperated and helped us produce wines of finesse, elegance, and balance – aspects that are critical for wines that exhibit a purity of expression and our wonderfully unique growing site.

Technical Information

Harvest Dates	September 13 to October 4, 2012
Blend	99% Zinfandel (68% Primitivo Clone*), 1% Petite Sirah
Alcohol	14.4%
Barrel Aging	14 months, French & American Oak, 15% New
Bottling Date	March 2014
Release Date	March 2015
*	Based on UC Davis analyses of Primitivo and Zinfandel, the varietals are genetically identical