

RENWOOD RANCH ESTATE ZINFANDEL

2019/\$27.99



DESCRIPTION

Founded by Robert Smerling in 1993, Renwood is one of the largest producers in the Sierra Foothills, known for its Zinfandel, Barbera, and Syrah. Situated in the picturesque Amador Country of Northern California, Renwood is surrounded by the rolling hills and rushing streams of California's gold country. Renwood is today one of the most respected wine producers in the Sierra Foothills, specializing in Zinfandel made from old, dry-farmed vines. Renwood wines have enjoyed consistently high ratings by some of the most respected critics in the world reflect the skills of their winemakers and devotion to the craft of winemaking. Renwood owns Renwood Ranch, which includes 135 acres of vines.

The 2013 vintage marked the winery's 20th anniversary, as well as an exciting new chapter when it invited Joe Shebl to be its new director of winemaking and general manager. Well, Joe isn't entirely new. Renwood gave him his very first winery job: a cellar rat for the 1999 harvest. He instantly fell in love with the business and has since pursued a career in wine-making, which included a seven-year stint as Renwood's winemaker. After honing his skills and cultivating his reputation at a few other Shenandoah Valley wineries, Joe was excited to get back to Renwood. It feels like I'm coming back home," he says.

He started in July and hit the ground running. With big plans for the 2013 harvest, he arranged to start picking grapes in the middle of the night, as practice new to the region. We started picking at three in the morning, the coldest time, to get the wine off on the right foot. Cooler means fresher," Joe says. Also, we no longer crush our fruit. We only de-stem the berries to allow the fruitier, jammier flavors to come through, and eliminate the bitter, harsh seed tannins." In the cellar, Joe is fine-tuning a new barrel aging program using barrels from about 30 cooperages and a variety of forests and toast levels.

Since Renwood has sister wineries in Argentina, Uruguay, France, and Italy, Joe will be able to expand his winemaking horizons even further. He is working on creating a global winemaking team that will meet at one of the wineries a couple of times a year to learn about different techniques and how they might translate to other wine regions. Someday, we'll all meet in Amador," Joe says. I know they'll be impressed with the region, especially with Renwood wines."

Renwood Ranch Estate Zinfandel 2019

This wine is 99% Zinfandel and 1% Petite Sirah. The grapes are all from one vineyard, Renwood Ranch, in Plymouth, Amador County, California. It spends 16 months barrel aging in 20% New French Oak. It is drinkable now, and even better in 3 years, or hold for up to 7 years for a fully mature Zinfandel experience.

Tasting Notes

NOSE:

Not black, but a saturated purple color with a red rim. On the nose, there's freshness especially, with wild huckleberry, blackberry, and sweet plum aroma. More than that, there's cherry pie and pie crust, warm sweet herbs, and a touch of vanilla.

PALATE:

The aromas are echoed in the flavors, and the palate has soft, rounded edges, and a medium-full density. The finish is long, flowing, and generous with mulberries, blueberries, cocoa powder, and vanilla.

PAIRING: **The perfect wine for BBQ!**

WINERY WEBSITE: [\(1\) Facebook](#)

Fun Facts

The 2019 Renwood Zinfandel, Renwood Ranch, is bold and powerful. This wine comes right at you on the palate with the full force of berries and oak. Bring this one to a barbecue and enjoy. -90 Points Wilfred Wong at Wine.com

Amador County, Sierra Foothills A.V.A., California



Amador County

Map of California Counties showing the Sierra Foothills American Viticulture Area.