

# GEARBOX

2021 LODI, CALIFORNIA ZINFANDEL

**Blend:** 85% Zinfandel, 15% Petite Sirah

**Alc:** 14.5% by vol. | **Aging:** 8 months in American new oak

**pH:** 3.5 | **Acidity:** 5.0 g/mL | **Residual Sugar:** 4.0 g/L

## VINEYARDS

The 2021 Zinfandel from Lodi, California, underwent a vinification process designed to highlight the rich, fruit-forward character typical of the region's old vine Zinfandel. The grapes, harvested at peak ripeness, were meticulously sorted to ensure only the best quality fruit was used. Fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks to preserve the vibrant fruit flavors, with careful temperature control to facilitate optimal yeast activity and color extraction. The cap was regularly punched down to enhance the extraction of flavors, aromas, and tannins from the skins, contributing to the wine's robust structure and depth. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation to soften the acidity and add complexity to the flavor profile. The Zinfandel was then aged in a combination of American oak barrels to impart additional layers of complexity, introducing subtle notes of vanilla, toast, and spice that complement the natural fruitiness of the wine. This oak aging process was carefully monitored to ensure that the oak flavors were well-integrated and complementary to the wine's overall profile. The result is a well-rounded and expressive 2021 Zinfandel from Lodi, showcasing the depth and richness of the region, with a structure that promises good aging potential.

## WINE

The 2021 Zinfandel from Lodi, California, is a robust and flavorful wine that beautifully captures the essence of this renowned region known for its old vine Zinfandel. It presents a deep ruby color with a hint of purple, suggesting a rich palate. On the nose, this Zinfandel exudes bold aromas of ripe blackberries and juicy plums, complemented by layers of spicy black pepper and a touch of sweet tobacco, characteristic of the varietal. The palate is full-bodied and lush, offering a generous burst of dark fruit flavors that echo the nose, intertwined with nuances of cinnamon and clove. The wine's well-integrated tannins provide a firm structure, while the finish is long and smooth, with a lingering warmth and a hint of vanilla from oak aging. This 2021 Lodi Zinfandel is a delightful expression of the varietal, perfect for pairing with grilled meats or enjoying on a cozy evening.



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