



MARTINELLI

ESTABLISHED IN THE 1880'S

CHARDONNAY

ZIO TONY RANCH VINEYARD • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2020



GROWING YEAR

2020 will likely go down as one of the most memorable harvests in Martinelli history. The growing season was nearly perfect until mid-August when two nearby wildfires were ignited by a dry lightning storm. At this point in the berries' growth cycle, the skins are softening and developing flavors. Because we religiously prioritize the quality of our wines and the integrity of our brand, we made the hard but crucial decision to not make any Pinot Noir from the 2020 vintage. Unlike the other varieties that we grow, Pinot Noir is susceptible to absorbing flavors from its surroundings because it is exceptionally thin skinned. This is why we are able to pick up terroir flavor nuances even within the same AVA in this grape. Luckily, we have Chardonnay, Zinfandel and Syrah from the 2020 vintage. Chardonnay is removed from its skins as soon as it enters the winery, so contact with any smoke flavors is extremely minimal. Zinfandel and Syrah both have very tough skins and did not absorb the smoke flavors we tasted in the Pinots. Though we were only able to process half the amount of fruit we do in a normal year, we are grateful for the outstanding wines we were able to make from the 2020 harvest.

2019 VINTAGE

94 points, Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*

2018 VINTAGE

95 points, Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*
96 points, Erin Brooks, *Wine Advocate*

WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonage

Oak: 60% new French Oak,
40% neutral French Oak, 10 months

Case Production: 379

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type: Gold Ridge & Clay Loam

Rootstock: 420, 3309, 101-14 (?)

Clones: 548, 95, 76, Wente

WINEMAKER

Courtney Robinett Wagoner

VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Zio Tony Ranch is named after Lee Sr.'s uncle Tony who was the first in the Bondi family to be born on American soil. Zio Tony, Zio meaning 'uncle' in Italian and pronounced 'tseo', was a very charismatic man with a big booming voice whom loved a good time. When Zio Tony passed away in 1971 his nephew, Lee Martinelli, Sr., took over management of the estate. The love of his family's heritage land was too great for Lee to sell the property and in one short season he went from High School teacher to Apple Farmer. Eventually this apple orchard was converted to vineyards, as the market for apples grew unbearably soft. The vines are planted on rolling hills made up of Gold Ridge soil, with clones consisting of 95, 76, and 548.

TASTING NOTES

Enticing aromas of honeysuckle, vanilla, and golden pear are found in the nose. Balanced flavors of lemon curd, crème fraiche, and sweet barrel spices are found from entry to finish. These layered flavors accentuate the acidity in the balanced mouthfeel.



PINOT NOIR
LOLITA RANCH VINEYARD • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2021



2021 Vintage

96 points – Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

93 points – J. Molesworth, Wine Spectator

2019 Vintage

94 points – Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous

WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonnage

Oak: 50% new French Oak,
50% neutral French Oak, 10 months

Case Production: 256

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type:

Josephine's with lots of Franciscan shale

Rootstock:

101-14, 3309, 420A

Clones:

777, 667

GROWING YEAR

2021 was the driest year on record since they started keeping record 127 years ago. It was also the third year of drought conditions for Sonoma County. Contrary to these conditions, the summer was relatively cool and started two weeks later than the previous year. The drought conditions did bring ripeness to each of our varieties at just about the same time. By the end of the first week, we had 40% of total tonnage in the winery. This included Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Zinfandel from both Fort Ross-Seaview and Russian River Valley. Despite being a very compact harvest, small clusters and berry size have yielded exceptional quality which makes 2021 a standout vintage.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Lolita Ranch is located on Martinelli Road in Forestville. The property was part of the original Martinelli Homestead Ranch, belonging to Giuseppe and Luisa Martinelli who purchased the steep, forested land in the late 1800s. Later, their eldest son Fred sold the parcel to his neighbor, Lolita Young's mother. Eventually Bob and Lolita Young inherited it and ran a herd of cattle on the land for many years. Lee Martinelli Jr. and his wife Pamela acquired the property in 1999 from Bob Young after Lolita's passing, returning it back to the Martinelli estate and to the family's continuing century-long legacy of viticulture. Lee Jr. decided to name the ranch after Lolita and planted the steep hillside in 2001 with four different grape varietals: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Zinfandel.

TASTING NOTES

Lively flavors of strawberry compote, dried cherries, and clove are found in the glass. Leading with a bright entry, you will find flavors in the mouth of red berries, pomegranate, and ripe cherries. The clean, long finish is complemented by balanced acidity.



MARTINELLI

ESTABLISHED IN THE 1880'S

PINOT NOIR
BONDI HOME RANCH • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2021



GROWING YEAR

2021 was the driest known year on record and was also the third year of drought conditions for Sonoma County. Contrary to these conditions, the summer was relatively cool and started two weeks later than the previous year. The drought conditions did bring ripeness to each of our varietals at just about the same time. By the end of the first week, we had 40% of total tonnage in the winery. This included Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Zinfandel from both Fort Ross-Seaview and Russian River Valley. Despite being a very compact harvest, small clusters and berry size have yielded exceptional quality which makes 2021 a standout vintage.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Bondi Home Ranch sits at the southernmost tip of the Russian River Valley in the Green Valley AVA in Sebastopol. Lee Martinelli Sr. inherited this ranch from his uncle when it was still an apple orchard and has since converted the 20 acres to Pinot Noir grapes. The vineyard is planted with eastern exposure, which promotes even ripening with all day sun. The cool breeze from the sea rises in the late afternoon, skimming along the distant bank of fog, relieving the vines from the afternoon heat, and enhancing slower ripening. The clones are 115, 777, 667, 828, 943 and Calera. Bondi Home Ranch has the longest growing season of all our vineyards; it is the first to bloom and the last picked.

TASTING NOTES

Inviting aromas of black plum, sweet leather, and clean minerality greet you upon opening. The entry is slightly sweet with present tannins, along with integrated Oak spice, fig preserve, and black cherry. The multi-layered palate evolves through the long finish.

2019 VINTAGE

94 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous
95 points Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

2018 VINTAGE

96 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous
95 points Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonage

Oak: 50% new French Oak,
50% neutral French Oak, 10 months

Case Production: 863

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type: Goldridge

Rootstock: 101-14, Clones: 115, 777, 667, 828

WINEMAKER

Courtney Robinett Wagoner