

PETERSON WINERY



DRY CREEK VALLEY

2002 ZINFANDEL BRADFORD MOUNTAIN VINEYARD DRY CREEK VALLEY

Fred's Vintaged View:

I fell in love with mountain wines and mountain vineyards in 1979 when I first laid eyes on Mount Eden Vineyards in the Santa Cruz Mountains. I carried that devotion to mountain wines with me when I moved up to Dry Creek Valley in 1983 to develop a vineyard and build my house on Bradford Mountain.

The Bradford Mountain Zinfandel comes from a small, gnarly block of Zinfandel planted before 1900. With the exception of a few old Petite Sirah vines in the block, it's pretty much all Zinfandel. Unlike the benchland Zins, the mountain Zin has a peppery quality and more black fruit character (think wild blackberry).

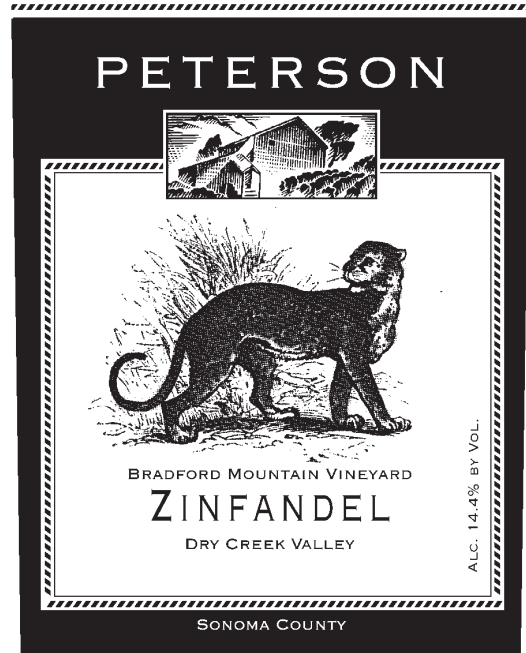
I'm fond of saying that this is wine with incredible Zin fruit on the palate and a structure like a great cabernet. Though few Zinfandels can stand up to more than a decade of bottle aging, this is certainly one of them and will reward those folks with the proper storage and patience to lay it down.

Tasting Notes:

Our Bradford Mountain Zin has more personality than the main character in a good mystery. The aromas seem dark and brooding yet somehow inviting, with layers of fruit, oak and spice all blended together. Deep rich flavors on the palate and a consistent thread of mineral essence run throughout to form a well-balanced and full-bodied wine. Concentrated blackberry flavors meld with a spicy backdrop to create an intensely delicious Zinfandel. This wine could easily hold in your cellar for years, or be consumed immediately with a juicy tri-tip or robust Italian meal.

Vineyard:

Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard, on the western edge of Dry Creek Valley, is 32 acres on the very top of the mountain (elevation 1000 feet) planted in the 1980s. Great pains were taken to search for the proper varietals and clones to plant in the mineral-rich mountain soil. Well-drained, red-clay soil, combined with sunny days and cool nights produce small, intensely flavored grapes with a higher acidity and a lower pH than valley fruit. These grapes are picked at a higher sugar to achieve the perfect balance for exceptional wines.



Technical Data:

Composition:	100% Zinfandel
Appellation:	Bradford Mountain Vineyard Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County
Harvest Dates:	September 19, 2002
Alcohol:	13.8%
pH:	3.48
TA:	0.66g/100ml
Barrel Aging:	20 months
Type of Oak:	25% new Hungarian oak 75% 2-4 yr-old French oak
Bottling Date:	June 25, 2004
Production:	325 cases
Release Date:	Fall 2005

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