



Inglenook

2011 EDIZIONE PENNINO ZINFANDEL



HISTORY

Edizione Pennino Zinfandel pays tribute to Francis Ford Coppola’s maternal grandfather, Francesco Pennino. Born in Italy, Francesco emigrated to the United States as a young man and started a music publishing company known as “Edizione Pennino.” Our estate Zinfandel bears the music company’s logo in its original form and to add to the nostalgia, each vintage bottling has one of Pennino’s song titles imprinted on the cork. When Coppola purchased the Inglenook estate in 1975, it was recommended that he remove the Zinfandel vineyards, but because this varietal has Italian origins and has always been enjoyed by his family, he insisted that the Zinfandel vines remain.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Zinfandel for Edizione Pennino is grown in a variety of vineyard blocks scattered across Inglenook’s 235 contiguous acres. The old dry-farmed, head-pruned vines, which provide the backbone of the blend, offer concentrated berry flavors and spice; younger plantings of the historic Morisoli clone contribute fresh raspberry fruit flavors, lively acidity and spice notes; and the historic Werle selection adds dark boysenberry aromas and a round texture. Because we farm organically on the estate, it requires extra effort to cultivate our Zinfandel, as the varietal is one that’s susceptible to mildew and botrytis. We firmly believe, however, the rewards outweigh the added work that goes into creating this wine.

WINEMAKER’S NOTES

2011 will remain in memory as a challenging harvest because of rainfalls and botrytis. We decided to pick blocks and areas within the sub-divided blocks, clusters, or parts of clusters, to have the best ripeness possible without losing the crop. The grapes were less concentrated than the prior year but with more freshness and complexity. We made our first pass through the vineyard on October 3rd and finished picking on October 15th, checking the vineyards daily in between and harvesting only fully ripe clusters. Following fermentation the lots were aged in a variety of wood with one-third of the wine going into French oak barrels and two-thirds going into American oak; thirty percent of all barrels were new wood. The wine aged for 18 months in our climate controlled caves.

TASTING NOTES

Round on the palate with soft tannins, this year’s rendition of Pennino Zinfandel is fresh and aromatic. Beautiful notes of red and black berries mingle with sweet baking spices of vanilla, clove and cinnamon. Sweet, jammy fruit character and nuances of raspberries, red plums, and blackberries create a luscious flavor array. This year’s Pennino is more restrained than vintages past, but the wine demonstrates power, complexity and a fragrant finish without any one flavor being too overwhelming.

APPELLATION:	RUTHERFORD, CA
BLEND:	88% ZINFANDEL, 4% PETITE SIRAH, 2% PRIMITIVO
VINEYARDS:	GATE, BRIDGE, SADDLE, WALNUT, MOUNTAIN AND WOODSHED BLOCKS
BARREL REGIMEN:	18 MONTHS
ALCOHOL:	14.8%