

# MARR

## 2003 Old Vine Zinfandel Mattern Ranch, Mendocino County

Handcrafting wines that are extremely fruit-forward, Marr Cellars is a winery that meticulously creates superlative wine. Our emphasis is to work with small lots of high quality grapes, from vineyards with distinctive character and focused flavors. During harvest, all grapes are cooled, hand sorted, destemmed (not crushed) and "cold soaked" prior to fermentation. Some lots are fermented with indigenous yeast; however, most are inoculated with specific yeast strains to accentuate vineyard and varietal characteristics. Following slow, cooler fermentation, all lots are lightly pressed. Extended maceration is utilized for selected lots. Blending trials are completed after fermentation, and again after barrel aging. All our wines are aged in French and American oak from assorted forests and coopers. New barrels are used sparingly for contributing nuances that enhance (without overpowering) aromas, flavors, mouthfeel, texture, and a lengthy finish.

**Appellation and Varietal Content** – Mattern Ranch is located southeast of Ukiah, on the east side of the Russian River near Talmadge. We harvest grapes from older blocks that were planted around 1930. This well drained vineyard slopes to the west and features low yielding, head pruned vines, which comprise 90% percent of this blend. The remaining portion of this blend is 10% percent Petite Sirah.

### **Technical Data**

<b>Varietal Content</b>	90% Zinfandel, 10% Petite Sirah
<b>Aging</b>	French and American oak barrels, 28.5% of which is new
<b>Case Production</b>	175cases
<b>Alcohol</b>	15.86%
<b>Residual Sugar</b>	0.132%
<b>Titrateable Acidity</b>	0.65g/100ml
<b>pH</b>	3.67
<b>Release Date</b>	Spring 2005

### **Tasting Notes**

This wine is very similar to its 2001 counterpart; however, the 2003 vintage featured more accessible, richer fruit flavors with more depth. These qualities are quite evident in the resulting wine. The nose features aromas of caramel, toasted cedar and vanilla layered over ripe cherries, plums and blackberries. The palate has a deep, full mouth feel featuring a rich, velvety core of dark plums and Bing cherries framed by softer peripheral tannins and peppery spices that lead to a very long, complex finish with and a touch of citrus and hints of cassis.

**Suggested Retail**                      \$23.00