

**2014 Buehler Vineyards Napa Valley Zinfandel**

The grapes we choose for our 2014 Buehler Vineyards Napa Valley Zinfandel are a mix of those off our estate vineyards and grapes from other select Napa Valley high quality, low-yielding vineyards. Dry-farmed for over 27 years, our 4.5 acre estate block consists of mature forty-one year-old vines which typically give us around 2.5 tons/acre of beautiful hillside Zinfandel fruit. Interspersed among the head-trained vines are a handful of Petite Sirah vines representing perhaps 5% of the total vines in this block. A traditional field companion to Zinfandel in pre-prohibition California vineyards, Petite Sirah contributes pepper, color, and tannin structure to the wine.

The 2014 vintage will be fondly remembered for its classic proportions and near perfect ripening season that began with ideal flowering and fruit set and then was coaxed to ripeness by a steady stream of moderate sun drenched days and cool foggy nights. The harvest began a full seven to ten days earlier than the 2013 harvest. Like 2013, the late light rains of the 2014 harvest season posed no threat to our crop since it was safely tucked away in the winery once they arrived.

Our Zinfandel was aged for 12 months in a combination of French and American oak barrels, 20% of which were new. At this level of "new wood", the up-front endearing quality of Zinfandel can assert itself. Aromas of a briar patch on a hot summer day carry over to the palate and are carried in a mouth-filling, deeply layered, juicy package. The wine was crafted for immediate enjoyment but for those who enjoy a more complex wine displaying some bottle-aged character, aging for another two to three years is a good option.

David Cronin  
Winemaker

Appellation	Napa Valley
Brix at Harvest	26.5
TA	0.62 g/100 ml
pH	3.70
Alcohol	15.0%
RS	0.09 g/100 ml
Production	3,000 cases
Suggested Retail	\$20.00

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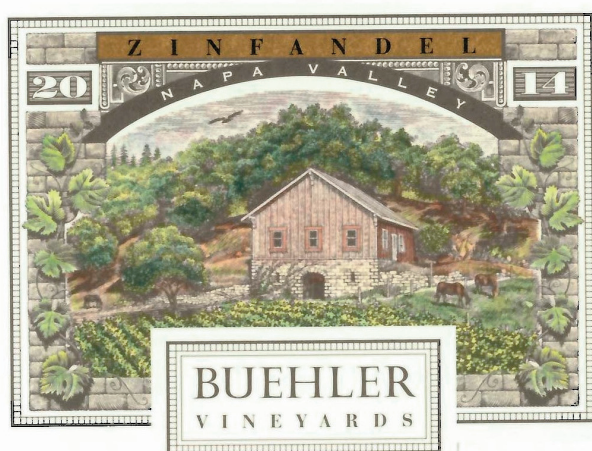
AS SEEN IN MAY 2017

# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup>

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## BUYING GUIDE

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**90** **Buehler 2014 Zinfandel (Napa Valley).** This is a classy, elegant expression of the variety, despite its brawn and ripe density. Fruit-forward, with blackberry and cherry flavors, it shows traces of vanilla, spicy pepper and smoky oak. The texture is soft, with subtle tannins. —V.B.

**abv:** 14.5%

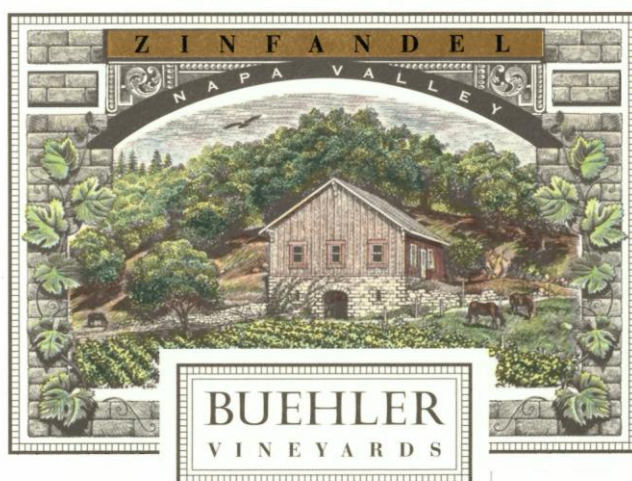
**Price:** \$20

# Wine & Spirits

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## AMERICAN NEW RELEASES



## BEST BUY Zinfandel

89 | Buehler \$20

2014 Napa Valley Zinfandel (Best Buy)

A firm zin with a smooth, chocolate texture, this offers sweet, crunchy blueberry flavor, along with something meatier and black. Ready to pour with grilled lamb. (3000 cases)

*Buehler Vineyards, St. Helena, CA*