



1998 Zinfandel

*Alegría Vineyards Heritage Vines™
Russian River Valley*

As the owners of Alegría Vineyards, we sell most of our grapes to other wineries but retain selected lots for Acorn Winery's hand-crafted, estate-grown wines. 1998 Alegría Vineyards Heritage Vines Zinfandel is Acorn's second Zinfandel release. It expresses the character of our 19th Century vineyard's unique field blend. We are passionate about nurturing our old, low-yielding vines and continuing the tradition of producing wine much as it was done 100 years ago.

Betsy and Bill Nachbaur

Winemaker Notes:

While 1998 was a challenging year in the vineyard, the resulting fruit was wonderful. A cold, wet spring delayed vine growth, and El Niño reduced the crop with rain at bloom-time. The grapes matured slowly through the cool summer. A warm Indian summer brought the crop to full ripeness by mid-October. The cool season and small berry size produced intense color and concentrated fruit.

The grapes were fermented in small open-top fermenters with Brunello yeast. Frequent, gentle punch-downs of the cap maximized color extraction. The wine was aged in barrels for 19 months to fully integrate and balance the fruit and oak.

Composition: 78% Zinfandel, 11% Alicante Bouschet, 9% Petite Sirah. The remaining 2% of the field blend includes Carignan, Trousseau, Sangiovese, Petit Bouschet, Negrette, Syrah, Muscat Noir, Cinsaut, & Grenache.

Tasting Notes: Dark garnet color with a nose of floral notes, spice, berries, and pepper that is typical of this vineyard. Well balanced with smooth, rich raspberry and blackberry flavors.

Harvest Dates: October 12 & 14, 1998

Brix: 25° Brix

Barrel Aging: 19 months in a combination of French, American, and Hungarian oak. (22% new, 88% 1-year+ old)

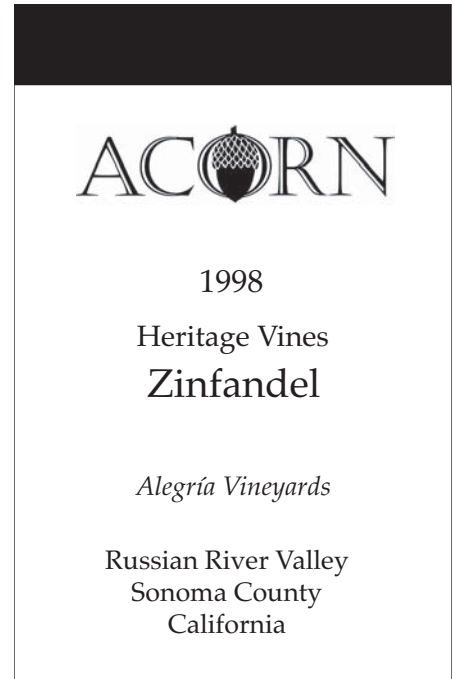
Alcohol: 14.8%

pH: 3.54

T.A.: 0.65g/100ml

Case Production: 274

Release Date: June 2000



12040 Old Redwood Highway • P.O. Box 2061 • Healdsburg, CA 95448

Phone: 707-433-6440 • Fax: 707-433-7641

nachbaur@acornwinery.com • www.acornwinery.com