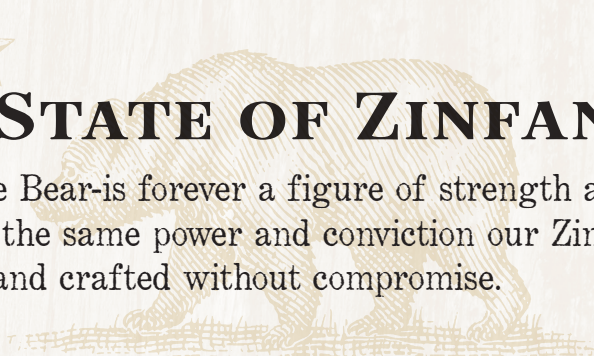




## THE STATE OF ZINFANDEL

Beran - The Bear-is forever a figure of strength and head-strong drive. With the same power and conviction our Zinfandels are grown and crafted without compromise.



### SOURCING PHILOSOPHY

For Beran, we rely on heritage old vine zinfandel plantings, interlaced with a few young up-and-coming vineyards. We are honored to work with some of the most world renowned multi-generation Zin growers in Sonoma County, Napa Valley, Mendocino County, the desolate Sierra foothills of Amador County along with a handful of other notable Zin regions. For instance, the Saini family has been growing Zinfandel in the Dry Creek Valley since 1917, and the Foppianos have been Sonoma County growers since 1896. On the new side is the dramatic Shannon Ridge Home Ranch in Lake County where a 15-year-old vineyard has been planted at elevations of 2,100 to 2,500 feet in lean, rocky and volcanic soil. Many of our growers' dry farm their vineyards and proudly incorporate sustainable and organic cultural practices.

### 2012 VINTAGE

After a dry winter, the northern wine growing regions of California experienced some good rainfall in March, followed by a warm yet not overly hot summer. In general, 2012 offered a mildly warm growing season with the only heat spike being a two-day occurrence, close to harvest. This gentle vintage gave the fruit long hang-time for ideal acid and sugar balance along with complexity of flavors.

### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Beran California Zinfandel 2012 is a true representation of what Zinfandel can offer with the ripeness of the warmer regions and brightness from cooler regions. Grapes picked at optimum ripeness combined with extended fruit maceration over 30 days at times then laid to rest for 12 months in a combination of American and French oak has created a flavor-packed, easy-drinking zin with a soft, supple mouthfeel and balanced acidity. Zinfandel is one of the most expressive and distinctive grape varieties and when made well should continue to evolve and improve in the bottle.

### TASTING NOTES

**Color:** Deep dark red with a black core and purple hues

**Aromatics:** Smoky, sweet cedar vanillin notes, cassis, cranberry, sweet tobacco, and cooked dark fruits like warm Blackberry pie.

**Palate:** Flavors of red licorice, dried cherry and ripe dark berry fruits are complexed with hints of sweet tobacco, a slight dustiness

**Structure:** Very soft refined tannins balanced by a fresh acidity.

### WINEMAKERS

John Lopez

Joseph Wagner