



# SBRAGIA

FAMILY VINEYARDS

## 2011 GINO'S VINEYARD ZINFANDEL

“For me the Sbragia Zinfandel is a Dry Creek classic”

- *Adem Sash*, Sommelier, DEL FRISCO'S GRILLE, Santa Monica, CA



### VINEYARD

Named after my dad, this 55-year old vineyard is five-acres in size and has a very special place in my heart. Located on a rocky hillside bench on the eastern side of Dry Creek, it's the place I used to play as a child, and where my son Adam was first introduced to viticulture. The selection of Zinfandel, Carignane and Petite Sirah grown in Gino's vineyard represent a traditional blend my Father made each year.

### VINTAGE

A wet winter and spring continued with rainfall into mid-June. This delayed bloom and disrupted fruit set resulted in shatter in parts of the region. This set the stage for a long, cooler-than-average growing season with a later-than-average harvest. The cloud cover and cool temperatures delayed vine development by several weeks at the onset of the growing season. Few high heat events occurred at any point this year, growers managed more open vine canopies to ensure sunlight, warmth and good air circulation around the grape clusters. After a consistently cool summer season, significant mid-October rain pushed the vintage even later. But growers were rewarded with weeks of fantastic weather, a prolonged Indian summer that provided needed ripening time. Quality looks very good with lower alcohols, good structure and length on the palate.

### WINEMAKING

This field blend is co-fermented, integrating the flavors early in the wine's development. The wine is then aged for 18 months in French oak barrels from the Never Forest. The oak imparts cedar and brown spice aromas and flavors and creates supple tannins. By blending in a small amount of Carignane and Petite Sirah, we were able to create a Zinfandel with lots of depth of flavor and structure, while still highlighting quintessential Dry Creek Zinfandel characteristics.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

This wine is a tribute to my father in more ways than one. We make my red wines the way my Dad taught us - keep the barrels clean and topped, and the wine will take care of itself. The 2011 vintage is full of lush ripe red fruit. It has a core of sweet red currant and strawberry. Good acidity and a bright finish make this a great match for many foods.



### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Appellation:** Dry Creek Valley

**Harvest:** October 13, 2011

**Blend:** 86% Zinfandel,  
9% Carignane, 5% Petite Sirah

**Cooperage:** 18 months in French  
Oak barrels

**Alcohol:** 14.4%

**TA:** 6.25 g/L

**pH:** 3.90

**Cases Produced:** 986

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