

Spelletich Cellars

2002 Zinfandel Alviso Vineyard

- 100% single vineyard Zinfandel - Alviso Vineyard, from gold country of Plymouth in Amador County
- 12 months in American and French oak
- Total Production: 1383 cases

Blackberry, cocoa, saffras, brambleberry, black cherry cola, anise, a dollop of vanilla creme and spicy French plum with fleshy tannins that provide a long smooth finish that lingers. Amador County provides us with the best of both worlds for zinfandel: the ability to get the grapes ripe while maintaining natural acidity. Harvested by flavors not sugar, our zinfandel boasts ripeness together with acidity to liven it up and carry a refreshing finish.

It is interesting how vineyards can reflect their owners and growers. Frank Alviso is big and muscular, kind, gentle, intelligent, patient, a well-rounded individual. He is a down to earth dependable farmer, good father and husband. Just like the Alviso Family, this wine has deep integrity. We struck gold when we found a new vineyard source for old-fashioned head pruned vines planted in Sierra granitically derived shallow soil and farmed organically. Hot days and cool nights give us the balance that makes wine, well.... taste like wine.

Ripeness in this region occurs late in the season allowing good hang time and flavor development. Barb says this ripeness reminds her of Gewurtztraminer or reislings she used to import. Being a soulful winemaker she thought about what sets those wines apart, what keeps them from being too cloying: The answer is natural acidity. BINGO: preserve that through A cool fermentation and no malolactic fermentation adding to the charm of this distinctive Zinfandel. Robust and evolving, the 2002 drinks well now in its tempered balance and will age gracefully. Drink a bottle over several days or decant while young and explore all the possibilities. Enjoy with roasted or grilled meats marinated with spicy, exotic dry rubs. Feel this wine explode in your mouth with lumbering side dishes of cheesy polenta or buttery rich potatoes. This wine complements food, family and friends.