



# FRANCIS COPPOLA DIRECTOR'S

ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS OF SONOMA COUNTY

*"What's amazing about Sonoma County is that it's one of only a few appellations in the world that offers a diverse range of microclimates that can accommodate both cool climate varieties such as Chardonnay and Pinot Noir as well as warm weather varieties like Cabernet and Merlot."*

—Corey Beck, Director of Winemaking

## 2012 DIRECTOR'S SONOMA COUNTY ZINFANDEL

APPELLATION:.....	Sonoma County	◆◆◆◆◆	RELEASED: .....	March 2014
BLEND:.....	99% Zinfandel, 1% Petite Sirah	◆◆◆◆◆	BARREL REGIMEN: .....	11 months ..... in French and American oak
ALCOHOL:.....	13.9%	◆◆◆◆◆		

### HISTORY

Several years ago when the Coppola family opened the doors to its wine and food destination in Sonoma County, California, the winemaking team was asked to create a series of wines that would reflect its own artistic interpretation of Sonoma County.

The winemakers decided to produce two separate collections in order to showcase Sonoma County as one of the premier wine growing regions of the world. The first—Director's Cut—offers limited production wines that are grown in the distinct sub-appellations of Sonoma, small areas that produce specific terroir traits we like. The second—Director's—is comprised of four classic varieties, which are grown in diverse vineyards across the entire expanse of Sonoma County.

By blending the fruit from a variety of geographic climates, we're able to create wines that offer lush, ripe fruit flavors, a light silky texture, and soft, supple tannins. Director's wines demonstrate Sonoma County's unique character and style.

### VINTAGE

2012 was an excellent vintage across California because of steady, mild temperatures that persisted throughout summer. It's certain to go down in the books as one of the best vintages of the decade. As a result of the ideal conditions, our Zinfandel demonstrates exquisite flavors and great structure.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

This year's Zinfandel was sourced from a broad range of vineyards we like for their expressive character. We also added a touch of Petite Sirah to the blend this year for added weight. The grapes were grown in Sonoma Valley, Dry Creek Valley, and Alexander Valley, regions that experience warm daytime temperatures and contrasting cool nighttime temperatures. These temperature differentials prevent the fruit from developing overly ripe flavors, allowing the true varietal character to express itself, rather than get syrupy, raisin-like flavors that mask the briary red fruits, pepper and spice notes the grape is known for.

### TASTING NOTES

We age our Zinfandel in a combination of French and American oak barrels to accentuate the wine's spice characteristics. Our 2012 Director's Zinfandel offers good depth, a velvety texture, a range of red and black fruit flavors, exotic spice notes, a hint of pepper, and a long fragrant finish. Scents of boysenberries, currants and allspice are followed by luscious layers of cherries, plums, and vanilla toasted oak. A delicious pairing for grilled lamb chops, barbecued spare ribs, or macaroni and cheese.



—COREY BECK, WINEMAKER