



**Beekeeper**  
**Zinfandel, Madrone Springs Vineyard**  
**Rockpile Appellation, Sonoma County 2012**

**Grape:** Zinfandel (80% Zinfandel & 20% Petite Sirah)

**Vineyard:** Madrone Springs Vineyard

**Appellation:** Rockpile, Sonoma County

**Vintage:** 2012 Bottled Dec 16, 2013

**Winemaker:** Clay Mauritson, Emma Kudritzki & Ian Blackburn

**Alcohol:** 14.75%

**Aged:** 15 months in 100% French Oak (30% new)

**Production:** 1680 Bottles (140 cases)



**Product Info & Orders**  
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## About

The 2012, the steep and rocky high elevation Madrone Spring Vineyard was 14 years-old and just completed its 3rd year of dry farming. 2012 was one of healthiest vintages in terms of quantity and quality and following three smaller harvests, it was considered “a growers vintage.” Mother nature wanted to push and had ideal conditions to do so. The winemaking team agreed that in 2012 “the fruit has some-thing a little extra” – extra spicy, floral, and extra plush tannins.

**Tasting Note:** The purple colored, floral, & spicy 2012 maintain great balance inside a massive frame with an abundance of richness, aroma, texture, tannin and a Rockpile core of acidity. The nose ranges from purple crayon, red cherry “red hot” cinnamon candy, Asian plum, cracked black pepper, white pepper, root beer, dried herbs, dark spices, dried underbrush, heavy stone, and graphite. There is a “mean,” almost sinister streak of black fruit, black earth, and dark spices in this vintage. It has been an amazing wine to watch unwind and we delayed release for several months to allow it more time.

2012 is complexed vintage with richness, balance, finesse, power, quality marks that live up to the growing reputation of the Rockpile Appellation. I hope this effort continues to convert Cabernet, Meritage, and Rhone fans into accepting Zinfandel as one of the more noble offerings of California. We make this wine with all the attention and quality of the great wines we position ourselves around, and while some may not appreciate the premium effort and costs involved, we are resolved to make great wine that requires some patience and can reward additional cellarage.

About Rockpile: Rockpile is a hillside appellation and that means the fruit must come from vineyards in this geographic area that are plant-ed at 800 feet in elevation or higher. Our vineyard is between 1100-1500 feet – one of the highest in the appellation. There are very few acres of fruit planted, so this will never be a place of volume, but the quality is unquestionable.

## Awards



**2012 Beekeeper Zinfandel, Madrone Spring Vineyard, Rockpile, Sonoma County**

**95 Points- 3 Puffs Connoisseurs' Guide: 🌟🌟🌟**

Once again, Beekeeper has offered up a profound Zinfandel possessed of exceptional depth and very specific varietal personality. Its first focus on concentrated black fruits filled out by hints of ripe blueberries, roasted cream and a fleck of black pepper aromatics is paralleled by its wonderfully expressive flavors, and, yet, despite both size and intensity, there is nothing over the top about this wine. To be sure, it is not one for the faint of heart, but the rest of us are going to find its highly extracted character to be the right ticket for dishes like a garlic laden leg of lamb hot off the barbie.