breaking bread



2022 Al Dente, Red Wine Sonoma County

Varietal: 90% Mourvèdre, 10% Zinfandel

Appellation: Sonoma County
Harvest: September 2022

Fermentation: 100% barrel fermented in neutral

French Oak

Alcohol: 11.7%

Winemaker Notes:

"To the tooth," Al Dente describes the ideal consistency of something when cooked. We believe Breaking Bread's Al Dente is the perfect light and bright red wine to pair with the food being served in today's best restaurants or by itself on a summer afternoon.

We made this wine differently than our other Breaking Bread reds. While we are no stranger to carbonic maceration, this is the first red wine that is fermented 100% whole cluster. Our other reds are primarily whole cluster but with some foot treading to help release more color and tannins into the juice, which combined with longer time in barrel, makes those wines more ageable.

With Al Dente, we were looking for a style that is delicate enough to pair with lighter cuisines – from seafood to vegetarian to the ever-popular farm to table – without overpowering the nuances those types of dishes offer. Coming in at 11.7% alcohol, this wine is surprisingly complex. It sees three months in neutral French Oak barrels and goes through full malolactic fermentation.

Vineyard Description:

The Mourvèdre comes from two clones planted in a 4-acre block of our 16-acre estate Mizany Vineyard, which is situated in the famous Cortina Gravel of Dry Creek Valley and named after my father-in-law. It is farmed organically and is currently in year two of Organic Transition through CCOF. The Zinfandel is 100% dry farmed, old vine, head trained Zinfandel from Tollini Vineyard in Redwood Valley, Mendocino County.