



**VINEYARD**  
STOKES VINEYARD

**AVA**  
LODI

**HARVEST DATE**  
10-1-2023

**FINISHED PH**  
3.36

**FINISHED TA**  
6.91

**ALCOHOL**  
15.1

**OAK PROGRAM**  
All American or Hungarian, 20%  
New, 20% Once Filled Balance  
Neutral

**CASES PRODUCED**  
110



# Calstar Cellars

## 2023 ZaZa Zin, Old Vine Zinfandel

Lodi

### Vineyard Profile

The esteemed Stokes Vineyard, nestled in the fertile Lodi region of San Joaquin County, continues to produce Zinfandel grapes of unmatched quality. These ancient vines, benefiting from the vineyard's meticulous management and the unique environmental factors of the area, yield a fruit that is both rich and nuanced. The 2023 vintage, like its predecessors, stands as a testament to the vineyard's legacy, capturing the essence of the varietal's robust character alongside its inherent, nuanced spice notes.

### Winemaker's Notes

The 2023 vintage emerges from a season distinguished by its moderate climate. This year's balanced weather conditions allowed for an even, gradual ripening of the grapes, enhancing their natural complexity and depth.

This vintage radiates a vibrant garnet hue in the glass, inviting the first exploratory sniff. The nose is met with an abundant array of aromas: juicy blackberries and rich, dark cherries take center stage, complemented by a delicate intertwining of vanilla and anise, which hints at the judicious use of oak.

As the wine graces the palate, it unravels in layers of lush, ripe fruit. The dark cherry and boysenberry heart is beautifully adorned with hints of espresso and dark cocoa powder, weaving a rich tapestry of flavors. This vintage rekindles the varietal's signature boldness, with each sip revealing a subtle backdrop of pepper spice and a gentle reminder of the vineyard's earthy terroir.

The 2023 ZaZa Zin strikes a remarkable balance between its full-bodied intensity and refreshingly bright acidity, a hallmark of the vintage's steady growing season. The tannins are polished and well-integrated, offering a smooth, velvety mouthfeel to a memorable finish, marked by lingering notes of fruit compote and a whisper of smoky oak.

The 2023 ZaZa Zin from Cal Stars, with its rich tapestry of flavors and balanced complexity, is a vibrant expression of Lodi's Old Vine Zinfandel. It is a versatile companion to a wide range of culinary experiences, from hearty grilled meats to rich, spiced dishes. It stands as a proud testament to the enduring legacy of the Stokes Vineyard.

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