

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1927



PEDRONCELLI



As featured in *Wine Spectator's* **SMART BUYS: 60 go-to wineries for excellence and affordability**

Excitement in the wine world comes in many forms. New wineries create a buzz, established producers innovate and diversify, emerging regions serve up new flavors, rare wines offer the thrill of the hunt. But what about the excitement of finding a distinctive and well-priced wine you can reach for with confidence time and time again? And what if you knew of such wines from dozens of regions and from a versatile variety of grapes?

In the pages that follow, you'll find our editors' profiles of 60 wineries that send high-scoring wines at reasonable prices into the market year in and year out. There will be vintage variation, of course, but all the bottlings listed have track records of maintaining quality while respecting the wallets of wine lovers, making them delicious and reliable choices vintage after vintage.

Founded 90 years ago by Giovanni Pedroncelli, this Geyserville winery is one of the last holdouts of a once-rich tradition in Sonoma County; it's an old Italian family growing its grapes without a lot of fuss and making wine that people can afford to drink every day.

The winery produces a bit of everything, but Zinfandel is the wine nearest to the family's heart. Giovanni's son John was the winemaker for 67 years, until his death in 2015, and he bottled Zinfandel as early as 1949. Today, three generations are involved in the winery, including John's brother, Jim. The Pedroncellis own 180 acres of vines in three sites in Dry Creek Valley. Winemaker Montse Reece works with about 30 acres of Zinfandel on the home ranch, with vines that range in age from 10 to 100 years old; the Zins are plump, with pure and zesty fruit.

88 POINTS

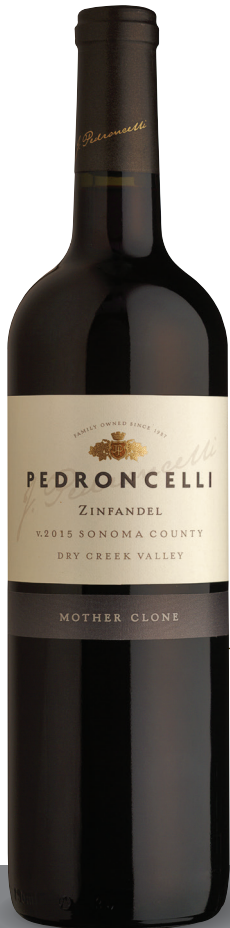
2015 ZINFANDEL MOTHER CLONE

This hearty blend of the family's Zinfandel sources is a pure taste of Sonoma. It's big and burly, delivering potent blackberry, smoked pepper and licorice flavors.

91 POINTS

2015 ZINFANDEL BUSHNELL VINEYARD

Bushnell has supplied fruit to Pedroncelli since the early 1940s. It sits on the benchland east and above Dry Creek Valley. This wine is full of verve, with wild berry, mocha and orange zest flavors.



PEDRONCELLI WINERY

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