

Haarmeyer

WINE CELLARS

Wirz - Riesling - 2019

Vineyard: Wirz Vineyards

The Wirz vineyard was planted by Almaden in 1963, back when big wineries were still planting vines on their own roots and furrow irrigation. Miraculously, the vineyard remains intact, thanks to work of the Wirz family. They were hired by Almaden to farm it because they lived on the property. Almaden eventually sold the vineyard to Pat Wirz's father and Pat is the man who has been in charge for the past 45 years, farming it as his father once did with strict practices that honor the old tradition of caring for the land as well as the vines.

The site is just east of the San Andreas Fault. This piece of land has a limestone base with decomposed granite overlaying. Although it sits at about 1,000 feet above sea level and gets some marine air, the days are frequently quite warm. The vines are head-trained, tiny bush vines spaced ten feet apart and the clusters range in size from golf ball to baseball. The yield is typically about one ton per acre.

The Cellar:

We destem into one ton open-top tanks and conduct a native yeast fermentation until dryness at which time we press into puncheons and barriques. The wine goes through malolactic fermentation. The wine stays on gross lees for 12 months until bottling. No fining or filtration is performed.

The Numbers:

Picked September 27

22.1 Brix

3.14 pH

13.83% Alcohol Bottled without fining or filtration July 23, 2021