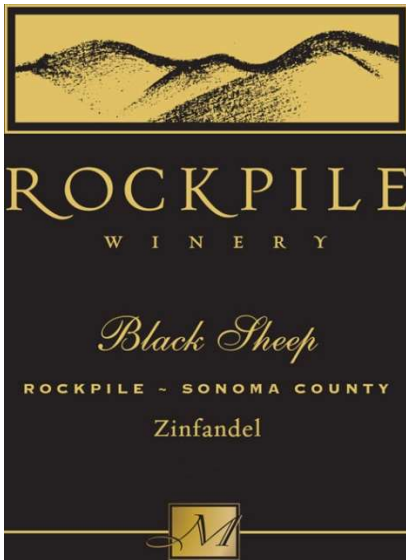




# MAURITSON

*Since 1868*



## 2022 Rockpile Zinfandel Black Sheep

**Production:** 54, 6-pack cases  
1.5L Magnums only

**Appellation:** Rockpile

**Composition:** 100% Zinfandel

**Alcohol:** 14.75% by volume

**Aging:** 14 months in oak barrels  
100% French

## Winemakers' Perspective

The "Black Sheep" is an ode to those of us who take the path less traveled. Without a doubt, I am the black sheep of my generation. My brothers all pursued viticulture degrees and now work on the vineyard side of the business. I figured the grass was greener on the other side of the fence and went into winemaking, via a very circuitous route, and started the family winery. Once again, I am breaking the mold!

We've always been committed to making only single vineyard wines from our Rockpile property, but the Black Sheep is the exception. This is our "Tete de Cuvee" of Rockpile Zinfandel: a blend of the best barrels. The Black Sheep harnesses all the unique characteristics of the individual blocks into one seamless expression of the best that Rockpile has to offer!

Our intention with Black Sheep is to make the purest expression of Rockpile Zinfandel. Though initially a little shy on the nose, with further aeration, beautiful details of ripe Santa Rosa plum, candied blueberry, late summer blackberry flesh, sweet earthen char and purple rose perfume waft from the glass. On the palate, you are greeted with a fantastic synergy of fresh blue and dark fruits. Perfectly structured tannins with a strong vein of minerality provide the hallmark signature of Rockpile's power and character. It's quite accessible for such a young wine yet shows incredible promise for special bottle to age beautifully for 10+ years.

Cheers,

Clay Mauritsen  
Owner