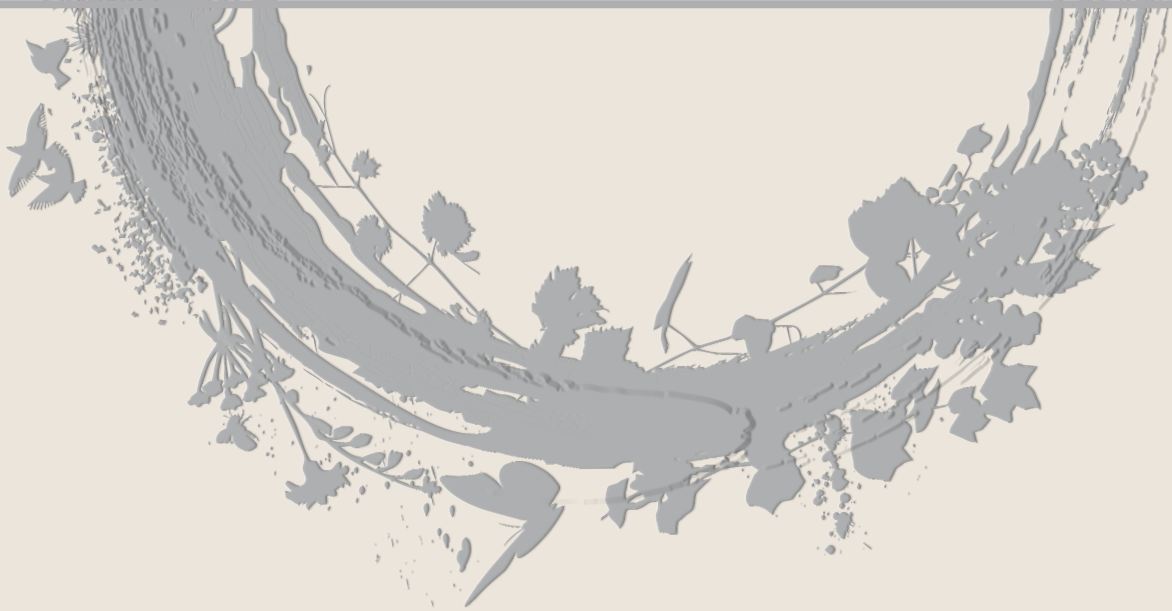


# BENZIGER<sup>®</sup>

*family winery*



*partners club selections*  
TECHINICAL SHEETS



# BENZIGER.

*family winery*

ESTATE SERIES

2021

## JOAQUIN'S INFERNO

ESTATE GROWN - SONOMA MOUNTAIN

ALC. 15.5% | TA 5.76 | PH 3.73 | CASES 544

### TASTING NOTE

For over 30 years, Joaquin Corona has tended the vines that grow on the steepest slopes of our ranch. This well-structured blend opens with notes of fresh strawberry preserves and spice before giving way to mocha, ripe plum and red licorice.

### VINEYARD

Joaquin's Inferno is a Demeter-certified Biodynamic® wine produced entirely from the Benziger Family Estate. This wine is named after Joaquin Corona, whom Mike Benziger has worked with for 30 years- and whom he affectionately refers to as the "grape whisperer". Because of the difficult positioning of these old head-pruned vines, Joaquin had always referred to them as his inferno...and the name stuck.

### VINTAGE

The 2021 growing season started with cool weather and dry conditions. High heat that struck at the end of August/early September pushed ripening across varietals, resulting in six busy weeks of harvesting. Luckily, the fast and furious harvest wrapped up days before a storm hit our region in October, allowing us to preserve yields. The vintage finished with fruit-forward wines of bright acidity and soft tannins.

### WINEMAKING

The wine was co-fermented in small open top tanks. Native yeasts were fermented and punched down daily by hand. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation and aged in French and American oak barrels for just over 11 months.



### WINEMAKER

Lisa Amaroli

### BLEND

49% Zinfandel  
39% Grenache  
9% Petite Sirah  
3% Cabernet Sauvignon

### CELLARING

Drink Now or Cellar up to 8 Years

### CERTIFICATION

Made with Demeter Certified  
Biodynamic® Grapes

# BENZIGER.

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ESTATE SERIES

2020

## THREE BLOCKS

ESTATE GROWN - SONOMA VALLEY

ALC. 14.5% | TA 5.7 | PH 3.61 | CASES 533

### TASTING NOTE

Showcasing soft, almost sweet tannins, our 2020 Three Blocks greets with fragrant notes of candied raspberry and sweet cardamom. A wave of black fruit, dark chocolate and coffee bean envelope the mid-palate before giving way to subtle vanilla spice and a lengthy, layered finish.

### VINTAGE

The year started warmer and drier than usual. Spring and early summer brought mild weather conditions allowing our vineyards to flourish with a perfect set. However, Mother Nature had other plans when it came to late Summer, with two fire events plus a spell of 100+ degree days from August through September. Through all the challenges our team persevered, and we are proud of the superb, yet limited, 2020 vintage.

### VINEYARD

Each of the chosen vineyards have high rock content, which allows cab to slowly grow in soil with very good drainage and poor fertility. Rocky soils produce grapes with round, soft, almost sweet tannins, which are exactly what we are after for Three Blocks. The low fertility soils of Sonoma Valley have excellent drainage, meaning strong roots must develop in order to find water.

### WINEMAKING

Our grapes are harvested at night to preserve their flavors and freshness. We allow the native yeast to ferment the grapes to wine while we carefully manage tannins during our pumpovers. This wine is then aged in French Oak barrels for 16 months.



### WINEMAKER

Lisa Amaroli

### CELLARING

Drink now or cellar up to 10 years

### BLEND

57% Cabernet Sauvignon  
43% Merlot

### CERTIFICATION

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Biodynamic® Grapes

# BENZIGER.

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ESTATE SERIES

2020

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON

SUNNY SLOPE VINEYARD - SONOMA VALLEY

ALC. 14.5% | TA 5.7 | PH 3.7 | CASES 365

### TASTING NOTE

Concentrated aromas of blackberry, cocoa and tobacco warm the nose to the dark core within. A layered entry of cedar and cardamom spice cascades into black currant and baked cherries, while the crushed-velvet tannins dissolve into a lush, smooth finish.

### VINTAGE

The year started warmer and drier than usual. Spring and early summer brought mild weather conditions allowing our vineyards to flourish with a perfect set. However, Mother Nature had other plans when it came to late Summer, with two fire events plus a spell of 100+ degree days from August through September. Through all the challenges our team persevered, and we are proud of the superb, yet limited, 2020 vintage.

### VINEYARD

Our Sunny Slope Vineyard, located in the eastern foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains, has deep roots combined with the warm southwestern sun exposure, produce thick-skinned grapes which give us the concentrated flavors, inky color and extracted tannins that distinguish this vineyard. This warm Glen Ellen location allows our grapes to grow to full maturity while maintaining a desirable low yield.

### WINEMAKING

Our grapes are harvested at night to preserve their flavors and freshness. We allow the native yeast to ferment the grapes to wine while we carefully manage tannins during our pumpovers. This wine is then aged in French Oak barrels for 16 months.

### WINEMAKER

Lisa Amaroli

### CELLARING

Drink now or cellar up to 10 years

### CERTIFICATION

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Biodynamic® Grapes





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APPELLATION SERIES

## 2019 SOLSTICE

SONOMA MOUNTAIN - SONOMA COUNTY

ALC. 15.0% | TA 6.01 | PH 3.72 | CASES 510

### TASTING NOTE

Crafted in the quiet of the winter solstice, 2019 Solstice Red Wine evokes the restrained, contemplative energy of the season. Spiced currant and subtle herb serve as an inviting prelude to the bold core within. Notes of blackberry pie, vanilla and sweet earth intermingle, coating the palate before the plush toasty spice finish.

### VINEYARD

Demeter-certified Biodynamic® and produced from our Sonoma Mountain estate vineyard. Each of the four seasonal transitions affects the vineyards in different and specific ways. Crafted in the quiet of the winter solstice, this wine captures the energy of the season.

### VINTAGE

The 2019 growing season started with above average rainfall at all the vineyard properties, causing slow budbreak and vigorous canopies. More passes were necessary in the vineyards to keep ahead of the high mildew pressure, and we made it through with flying colors. Flowering took longer than normal resulting in a light Pinot crop. Luckily, this was exclusive to Pinot, and other varietals sized up well! Weather was a bit inconsistent throughout the season leading to longer hang times. Overall, the result was juicy and concentrated fruit creating wines with ripe aromas and flavors.

### WINEMAKING

All of the fruit was whole cluster pressed before cold barrel fermentation. We fermented and aged the wine in neutral oak barrels and stainless steel drums to enhance texture and mouthfeel.

### WINEMAKER

Lisa Amaroli

### BLEND

60% Cabernet Sauvignon  
20% Malbec  
15% Merlot  
5% Zinfandel

### CELLARING

Drink Now or cellar up to 6 years

### CERTIFICATION

Made with Demeter Certified  
Biodynamic® Grapes



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ESTATE SERIES

2018

## OBSIDIAN POINT

ESTATE GROWN - SONOMA MOUNTAIN

ALC. 14.5% | TA 5.73 | PH 3.69 | CASES 650

### TASTING NOTE

Opening with a rich entry, the 2018 Obsidian Point is an elegantly powerful Cabernet Sauvignon. Aromas of marion berry, violets, plum and cocoa open to flavors of dark fruit, clove and pepperwood on the palate. The silky entry glides into edgy tannins and balanced acids creating a long, spirited finish.

### VINTAGE

With ideal conditions during flowering and a cooler, dry year, yields were up and the quality superb. The large crop set resulted in our team making multiple thinning passes of the fruit leaving only that of the highest quality. Due to mild temperatures, harvest started two weeks later than in 2017. With only one rain event at the beginning of October and clear skies from then on, the fruit was able to have a long hang time to reach textbook maturity.

### WINEMAKING

Our grapes are harvested at night to preserve their flavors and freshness. We allow the native yeast to ferment the grapes to wine while we carefully manage tannins during our pumpovers. This wine is then aged in French Oak barrels for 16 months.

### WINEMAKER

Lisa Amaroli

### CELLARING

Drink now or cellar up to 10 years

### BLEND

98% Cabernet Sauvignon

1% Petit Verdot

1 % Malbec

### CERTIFICATION

Made with Demeter Certified  
Biodynamic® Grapes



### ACCOLADE

90 points

# BENZIGER.

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ESTATE SERIES

## 2020 MALBEC

ESTATE GROWN - SONOMA VALLEY

ALC. 14.5% | TA 5.75 | PH 3.69 | CASES 290

### TASTING NOTE

Rich and nuanced, this expression of our estate-grown Malbec bursts with complex aromatics and an energized palate. Layers of ripe blueberry, plum and blackberry mingle with spice and clove before gliding into a vibrant, long finish.

### VINEYARD

For more than thirty years, we've farmed our ranch on Sonoma Mountain and searched Sonoma County for the most distinctive and expressive vineyards. Once found, we tend these sites using certified Biodynamic, organic and sustainable farming methods. The result is a portfolio of authentic and memorable wines.

### VINTAGE

The year started warmer and drier than usual. Spring and early summer brought mild weather conditions allowing our vineyards to flourish with a perfect set. However, Mother Nature had other plans when it came to late Summer, with two fire events plus a spell of 100+ degree days from August through September. Through all the challenges our team persevered, and we are proud of the superb, yet limited, 2020 vintage.

### WINEMAKING

Our grapes are harvested at night to preserve their flavors and freshness. We allow the native yeast to ferment the grapes to wine while we carefully manage tannins during our pumpovers. This wine is then aged in French Oak barrels for 16 months.

### WINEMAKER

Lisa Amaroli

### CELLARING

Drink now or cellar up to 6 years

### CERTIFICATION

Made with Demeter Certified  
Biodynamic® Grapes

