

BIRICHINO



2019 ENZ VINEYARD OLD VINE MOURVEDRE

Tucked away towards the back of a box canyon running perpendicular to the Cienega Valley in San Benito County, geology and tectonics profoundly inform the character of Enz. The San Andreas Fault lies roughly ½ mile to the northeast at the opening of the Lime Kiln Valley. A granite quarry sits a few hundred yards to the west. Abandoned lime kilns dot the hillsides. A large dolomite deposit is quarried four miles to the northwest. This extreme terroir accounts for the potent *Enz-ness* which infuses any wine from this vineyard. From our experience, an Enz Vineyard Mourvèdre or Enz Vineyard Pinot Noir is far more *Enz* than it is Pinot Noir or Mourvèdre. Obviously differences abound between the varieties, however the suggestion of watermelon emerges. And the wines, not surprisingly, taste like rock. They are tannic. They can be rough in their youth, but they are always persistent, and with patience, they can be fantastically perfumed. Enz has been farmed organically for a very long time. This Mourvèdre block dates to 1922, and we believe it is the only single variety Mourvèdre vineyard of this age not planted in Contra Costa County. Whereas Contra Costa Mourvèdre sits almost exclusively in deep beach sand at sea level, the soil structure here is much more complex, as is the resulting wine, which also requires significantly more time in barrel to relax. With Besson and Peter Martin Ray, we believe this is one of the very best sites with which we work. -Alex & John

Harvest: Oct 17 & 23, 2019
Composition: 100% Mourvèdre
Appellation: Lime Kiln Valley
Alc: 12.5% **TA:** 6.3 g/L **pH:** 3.59
Production: 180cs of 6x750ml

