

Planted in 2000, named after Martinelli's Zio (Uncle) Tony who established the family's farming in the late 1800's originally planting potatoes on the current vineyard site. Organic farming in goldridge soils, clay and loam produce a dusty earth component making it richer, rounder, and more seductive.

A dark black cherry/purple color. Tantalizing aromatics of blackberry, freshly roasted coffee beans, dark chocolate, cinnamon and Herbes de Provence. The palate is surprisingly elegant for a wine of such richness. It reminds me of a combination of Hermitage and Cote Rôtie if one could make that blend. The palate has a soft roundness to the entry with ripe tannins through the sweet mid-palate and just enough minerality to carry through to the finish. The wine is a collection of flavors ranging from roasted meats with a peppercorn crust on a roast beef, fennel salumi that keeps this wine going in so many directions, but so focused at the same time.

40% Whole cluster fermentation, aged for 18 months in 40% new French oak 300 - 500 liter barrels. Drink 2022 - 2040.

2018 Zio Tony Ranch Martinelli Vineyard Russian River Valley AVA 100% Organic Syrah 15.6% Alc

JEB DUNNUCK 94+

"I loved the nose on the 2018 Syrah Zio Tony Ranch, and it's just pure Syrah goodness with its ripe blackberry fruits as well as pepper, game, olive, and violet aromas and flavors. More medium-bodied on the palate, it has a solid sense of freshness and purity, building structure, and a great finish. It will benefit from a year or three and keep for a solid decade."

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ZIO TONY RANCH RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY SYRAH