Winemaker Scot Bilbro has been at the helm of Marietta since 2012; his father, Chris Bilbro, founded the winery in 1978.



Old Vine Red Lot 70

California, USA

ESTATE

Starting with only a handful of purchased grapes in 1978, Marietta Cellars has been a standout winery in Sonoma and Mendocino since the very start. Founded by Chris Bilbro, a Sonoma native with winemaking roots dated back three generations, Marietta rose to prominence with its revolutionary Old Vine Red, a California red blend that essentially created the category. The winery has slowly expanded its estate holdings over the past thirty years, evolving into a beacon for high quality, balanced Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, and Rhône variety blends.

WINE

Affectionately known as "OVR," Marietta's Old Vine Red is a proprietary red wine made to replicate the field blends of the old vineyards in Sonoma and Mendocino counties. A groundbreaking combination of varietals and multiple vintages first produced in 1982, this wine has blazed the path for red blends for decades. With an historic underground following, it is one of the longest lasting and best known red blends produced today. Predominantly comprised of fresh, young Zinfandel, OVR gets its backbone from Petite Sirah with about three years of age in neutral barrel, and its savory component from Syrah with about two years of age in neutral barrell. Occasionally, other varieties like Barbera, Carignan, or Grenache will be blended in for other elements. The goal is always an enjoyable table wine made with integrity that combines pure fruit, a supple mouth feel and a rich, solid structure.

WINEMAKING

Variety: A combination of wine from the 2018, 2017, and 2016 vintages. Primarily Zinfandel from 2018, benefiting from barrel aged Syrah and Petite Sirah from 2017 and 2016. Small amounts of Grenache, Barbera, and Carignane complete the wine.

Fermentation: Fermented and aged in stainless tank.

Aging: 60% was aged in neutral barrels and 40% was aged in stainless steel.

Alcohol: 13.5%

VINTAGE

A combination of wine from the 2018, 2017, and 2016 vintages, Lot 70 of Old Vine Red melds the freshness of young wines with the savory and silky characters of aged wines to deliver a refreshing, layered, and pleasurable wine. Each "lot" of OVR is blended to produce the best possible wine with the available components.

TASTING NOTE

"This 70th iteration of Old Vine Red continues to balance hedonism and class with bright red California fruit and a long, seamless, structured mouth. Juicy black cherry and cassis open up while sage and integrated cedar add savory earthiness that help complete the profile."

- Winemaker, Scot Bilbro