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 74

Sonoma/Mendocino, California

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 dating 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 composed 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 barrel. Occasionally, other varieties like Merlot, 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: Primarily Zinfandel from 2021, barrel aged Syrah, Petite Sirah and Merlot. Small amounts of Grenache and Barbera complete the wine. Merlot is adding core focus and tautness while Grenache and Barbera bring acid and high notes.

Fermentation: Fermented in stainless tank. Individual grape varietals fermented and aged separately. Aging: 60% was aged in neutral barrels and 40% was aged in stainless steel.

Alcohol: 13.5%

VINTAGE

A combination of wine from the 2021 and previous vintages, Lot 74 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 from separately aged individual varietals

TASTING NOTES

One swirl of the glass and OVR Lot Number 74 jumps with lovely bright plum fruit. Dark and focused with notes of briar patch and black tea, this wine strikes a perfect balance between fruit forward enjoyment and layered sophistication. Medium bodied, with a mouth of sweet spice, velvety tannins, and electric vibrancy this wine pairs wine almost any meal or occasion.