



**Karla Erovick**

## Zinspiration at ZAP's 20th Anniversary Events in San Francisco



celebrating 20 years of Zinfandel at ZAP

*Photo: AG Workman*

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Zinfandel Advocates and Producers ([ZAP](#)) celebrated 20 years of outstanding Zinfandel production in San Francisco this week. For Zinfandel lovers this was the place to be to enjoy Zinfandels from numerous wine regions throughout California.

Festivities kicked off on Thursday with **Good Eats and Zinfandel Pairing** at Fort Mason. Guests were encouraged to sample food and Zinfandel pairings from their favorite wineries. Creative pairings by restaurants played up the Zinfandel flavor served alongside wineries. Fort Mason was decorated in a wine theme with larger than life grape clusters suspended from the ceiling.

Food was perfectly paired with just the right Zinfandel to complement both the food and the wine. Small bites ranged from vegetable dishes, entrees with meat and fowl, and desserts. For foodies, the sushi grade fish, duck, Kobe Beef, lamb, and pork were worth savoring. With over 50 participating wineries in collaboration with 50 restaurants, it was impossible to leave the event hungry.

To round out the food entertainment, there was a series of cooking demonstrations in the **ZinKitchen** utilizing Zinfandel and providing food and wine samples to observers. Mediterranean cuisine is well suited to Zinfandel as evidenced by Moroccan Meatball Tagine with lamb meatballs in tomato sauce served over cous-cous by Joyce Goldstein paired with Heritage Zinfandel. Sommelier Journal's [Randy Caparoso](#) hosted the cooking events in the ZinKitchen and ensured that guests were well supplied with Zinfandel.

On Saturday the **Grand Tasting** drew crowds throughout the Bay Area and the world to sample some of California's most celebrated Zinfandels. There were so many wineries participating that they were scattered throughout two buildings, arranged alphabetically. The ZAP Guide listed participating wineries by region, so one could easily visit an unfamiliar appellation or their favorite wineries. With over two hundred wineries to select from it required a strategy to choose the ones to sample. The ZAP Guide listed Wines by Appellation, Old Vines, Organic producers, Single Vineyards, Multi-generation Wineries, Wines by price-point, and Zinfandel Blends. We choose to visit recent Medal winners from the Chronicle Wine Competition.

Many of the wineries represented were pouring their award-

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Karla Erovick enjoys traveling to undiscovered locations. She has written articles on Dubai, Panama and Spain's Costa del Sol. Erovick is the... [Read more](#)

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