

2017 Zinfandel, Todd Brothers Ranch Old Vines



History

The Todd Brothers Ranch has been a flagship Zinfandel at Dashe Cellars since 1998, when we first began making wines from these vines. It's one of our favorite vineyards in all of Sonoma County: the soil is a brilliant bright red color due to volcanic iron deposits, and the rocky slope in Geyserville makes the vines struggle to produce grapes. The result are unusually small, intensely concentrated grapes that produce dark purple, luscious wines. These head-trained vines consistently produce grapes with almost cabernet-like intensity and structure, yet still possessing the characteristic balance and sensuous texture of a Zinfandel.

Production

As always, the Todd Brothers Vineyard is one of our earliest ripening, and was picked in 2017 on the first day of September. The grapes were trucked to the winery in 1000 lb. picking bins, and hand-sorted before the crusher.

The grapes were fermented using the yeasts on the surface of the grapes. This native yeast method maximizes flavor, color, and complexity from the grapes. At dryness, the wine was gently pressed in a membrane press and pumped to 120- and 60-gallon French oak barrels.

During the blending, we added a small amount of Petite Sirah from the Todd Brothers Ranch for body, spice and depth of flavor.

Production Notes:

Varietals

98% Zinfandel
2% Petite Sirah

Appellation

Alexander Valley
Sonoma County

Alcohol

14.5% by vol.

Time in oak

18 months

Oak

90% 1-year or older
French oak 120 gal
puncheons and 60 gal
barrels, 10% new 60
gal French Oak barrels

Production

288 cases, 750ml

Release date

July 1st, 2019

Optimum time for consumption

2019-2035

Tasting Notes:

Color: Purple with reddish hues

Aroma: Blackberry, cassis, plum, chocolate, coffee, graphite, pepper, and subtle floral notes of violets.

Taste: Ones of the most structured and balanced Todd Vineyard wines we've ever made. A big wine with a sensuous texture. Beautiful entry of cassis and blackberry, luscious texture and a firm acid structure, earth and minerals, garrigue (forest floor), and silky tannins. Long, sweet, fruit finish of black current, peppery spice, chocolate and blackberry fruit.