

2018 Petite Sirah, Louvau Vineyard



History

One of our favorite vineyards from the Dry Creek Valley, the Louvau Vineyard has been a mainstay of Dashe Cellars since 2001. We've always loved the complexity of this vineyard's older Petite Sirah grapes. With attention in the vineyard and in the wine making practices, we've refined our techniques to make a balanced, richly-textured wine without the intense tannins commonly associated with this varietal. Our Petite Sirah has all of the deep color and intensity for which Petite Sirah is justly famous, but with a roundness and richness that makes it extremely pleasant to drink.

Jet-black in color, with flavors of cassis, blackberry, plum, and black pepper spice, this is one of the most approachable Petite Sirahs we make. The wine has great velvety mouthfeel and is ideal for hearty dishes and grilled meats.

Production

The 2018 vintage was famous for horrific fires and smoke issues, but luckily we had harvested from this vineyard before the fires became a problem. We were able to pick and sort the fruit, and gently crush into small fermentation vessels. The grapes were fermented using only the natural yeast population on the surface of the grapes, and we pressed the grapes before they reached dryness, to limit the amount of tannin in the wine. We kept the wine in barrel for 18 months to gain complexity and to soften the wine.

Production Notes :

Varietals

100% Petite Sirah

Appellation

Dry Creek Valley,
Sonoma County

Alcohol

14.5% by vol.

Time in oak

18 months

Oak

20% new
French oak
80% 1 year or older
French oak

Production

63 cases, 750ml

Optimum time for consumption

2020-2040

Tasting Notes:

Color: Black-Purple

Aroma : Blackberry, cassis, black pepper, chocolate.

Taste : Black current, blackberry, and chocolate on entry. Great velvety texture; a big wine but with lots of fruit and spice and a luscious finish that persists for many minutes.