

2019 Petite Sirah, Todd Brothers Ranch



History

The Todd Brothers Ranch, located outside of the town of Geyserville in the Alexander Valley, is an ideal site to grow intense, substantial Petite Sirah. The bright red rocky soil and the steep slopes of the vineyard make the vines struggle to survive, and the resulting grapes are jet-black and tiny. In 2019, the vineyard produced a very intense and surprisingly “Old World” style of Petite Sirah, with flavors of blackberry and chocolate mixed with earthy, leathery overtones reminiscent of what some Northern Rhone Valley wines from France tasted like decades ago.

Production

In 2019, we were able to harvest the grapes early enough that we escaped the smoke that accompanied the fires that erupted in the later parts of the harvest. We picked the grapes into ½ ton bins and sorted on a conveyor belt to pick out any less-than-perfect clusters on their way to the crusher. During fermentation, we used the yeasts on the surface of the grapes to gently ferment the grape must. This native yeast method maximizes flavor, color, and complexity from the grapes.

The wine is very intense, dark, and complex, with Herbs de Provence and fresh earth characteristics that you might find in some wines from the Rhone Valley. Structured and slightly tannic, this wine will improve over 10 or more years and last for over 25 years in the cellar.

Production Notes :

Varietals

100% Petite Sirah

Appellation

Alexander Valley,
Sonoma County

Alcohol

14.3% by vol.

Time in oak

18 months

Oak

100% 1 year or older
French oak

Production

72cases, 750ml

Optimum time for consumption

2022-2042

Tasting Notes:

Color: Black-Purple

Aroma : Blackberry, cassis, leather, herbs de Provence, rosemary, earth

Taste : Blackberry, plum, leather, minerals, and chocolate on entry. Structured and slightly tannic, with slightly floral overtones and a fleshy and round texture. Made for aging, this wine will continue to integrate its flavors over time, and develop into a complex and interesting older wine.