

artezin

PETITE SIRAH
MENDOCINO COUNTY
GARZINI RANCH



2009

Petite Sirah is often used as a blending grape, adding intense color and structure to cuvées of note. When featured on its own, Petite Sirah is often a dramatic, complex and intense, age-worthy wine. Mendocino County, with its warmer Mediterranean climate, is an ideal location for this varietal. Warm days and cooler evenings with temperature swings of as much as 40° allows the fruit to hang on the vine for an extended growing season, ripening fully, producing powerful, richly flavored wines.

This fine example of Petite Sirah comes from the Garzini Ranch, from the Talmage Bench on the eastern edge of the Ukiah Valley. The wine is a selection of two distinct vineyard blocks, one with vines planted in the 1940's. The blending of old vines with newer blocks contributes to the distinctiveness and intrigue of this wine.

Winemaker Notes

Dark and deep garnet red with high tones of blueberry are quickly followed by black fruit aromas of blackberry, cherry, licorice and cassis. Black and Blue fruit expressions carry onto the palate, followed by baker's chocolate. The texture is thick and coating, yet smooth as velvet. The tannins are young, but very elegant, leading to an exceptionally long finish. This rich wine is very versatile and stands up to bigger dishes including osso bucco, cassoulets and prime rib. It also pairs well with cheese courses and even chocolate desserts.

2009 Vintage

The spring of 2009 was cool with some rain, yet the Petite Sirah in Mendocino County set a "normal" crop. The summer was generally cool, but two heat spikes in the fall caused us to pick Petite a little earlier than normal, but fortunately almost full tannin maturity had occurred.

Blend: 100% Petite Sirah
TA: 0.56 gms/100ml
Ph: 3.91

Alcohol: 14.2%
Aging: 100% French oak, once-filled
Harvest Date: October 3, 2009

Garzini Ranch, Mendocino County

Margueritte, Jeannette & Constance Garzini, Owners
After immigrating to California from Italy in 1921, John Garzini purchased the ranch in 1921 and planted Zinfandel, Carignan and Petite Sirah. John's son Henry inherited the vineyard, which he passed on to his wife Constance, and his two sisters Jeannette and Margueritte. To this day, the three "sisters" watch lovingly over the grapes, continuing a tradition that will soon reach the Century mark.

