



2021 PETITE SIRAH Napa Valley

VINTAGE NOTES

The growing season started with a wet January and February, then nearly no rain for the remainder of the season. The dry weather resulted in early spring budbreak, followed by early flowering, bloom, and fruit set. Calm spring and summer temperatures with no concerning heat spikes allowed for even veraison in July. Due in part to continued drought conditions the yields were naturally lower resulting in optimal ripening of intensely concentrated and very flavorful berries.

VINEYARD NOTES

The fruit for this Petite Sirah was sourced from old-vine plantings in Calistoga and Pope Valley areas of the Napa Valley where a myriad of soil types, coupled with warmer temperatures help the grapes develop rich and balanced character. A third component is our Girard estate-grown "Mixed Blacks" field blend vineyard which is comprised of Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Mourvèdre, Grenache, and Carignan.

TASTING NOTES

The nose reveals a mélange of black raspberry, tree-ripened Santa Rosa plum, and cigar tobacco. Medium-plus to full-bodied, the wine unfolds with layers of black cherry preserves, vanilla, and hints of garrigue framed by a careful selection of Fusion barrel oak; savory notes imparted by the American oak, Hungarian oak elevates Petite Sirah's spice, and the French oak affords the wine a smooth and luxurious vanilla-scented finish.

ABOUT THIS WINE

This Petite Sirah has developed into a very sought-after wine in the Girard portfolio, with fans of the variety looking to our bottling for the characteristic heady perfume, inky dark color, intense tannins and balanced oak integration.

Varietal Composition 81% Petite Sirah, 17% Zinfandel, 2% "Mixed Blacks" field blend of red grapes | Appellation Napa Valley
OAK AGING 14 months in Fusion barrels comprised of French, American and Hungarian oak, 40% new

Alcohol 14.5% | pH 3.76 | TA 6.2 g/L | Residual Sugar .48 g/L | Production 3,000 cases