

Austin Hope

2021 PETITE SIRAH - LAGREIN

Austin Hope is in constant motion and a lifelong learner. He continually pushes his team to explore and experiment with new varietals, new techniques and concepts that will ultimately improve the quality of his wines for everyone to enjoy. When a particular trial or experiment exceeds expectations, Austin is able to share it with the Cellar Club. These small production wines are truly the result of his lifelong passion and yours to enjoy.

HARVEST NOTES

Our Petite Sirah is sourced from two vineyards both located the southeast side of the Estrella district in the heart of the ancient river plains where soils range from gravely sand to sandy loam. The Lagrein is grown and sourced from a historic Paso Robles vineyard in the Paso Robles Highlands district and is one of just a few Lagrein plantings in California and certainly the largest acreage. Soils here are higher elevation plains with consistent loam soils. Both districts are in the direct eastern path of the Templeton Gap winds that consistently blow through just as the vineyard temperature reach highs in the 90's to cool the vineyards each afternoon about two o'clock in the afternoon.

The 2021 growing season was very typical through early spring with warm days and cool nights. Early summer through harvest gave us some unexpected heatwaves but plenty of marine breezes and mild weather prevailed. The result was a slight delay of harvest while we waited for acidity, pH and brix to balance creating mature flavors.

WINEMAKING NOTES

After harvest, one Lagrein and four Petite Sirah lots were fermented individually in stainless-steel tanks for 10-14 days. Extended macerations and carefully managed pump overs enhanced the extraction of color and tannin. The varietals were aged separately for 9 months, the Lagrein in 100% neutral French and American Oak and the Petite Sirah in 100% neutral French and American Oak. The lots were racked only once during its cellar life, with the final racking occurring to blend, just prior to filtering and bottling in mid-July of 2022.

TASTING NOTES

This is our third release of this intensely rich blend. Full bodied and well structured, the wine begins with dark fruit aromas and savory notes of spice. Flavors of blackberry, black currant are balanced with spices of black pepper and sage. This full bodied wine has long lingering tannins that coat your whole palate before finishing with sweet oak notes.

TECHNICAL NOTES

VARIETAL(S): 86% Petite Sirah and 14% Lagrein

AVA: Paso Robles

HARVEST DATE: 9/22/21, 10/20/21, 10/22/21 and 10/23/21

OAK PROGRAM: 100% Neutral French and American Oak

TIME IN OAK: 9 Months

ALCOHOL: 15.00%

pH: 3.80

TOTAL ACIDITY: 0.59 g tartaric/100mL

CELLAR SELECT SERIES

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