

RIDGE 2017 PASO ROBLES ZINFANDEL

100% ZINFANDEL PASO ROBLES BENITO DUSI RANCH
15.1% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

Benito Dusi's Ranch is the only vineyard in the Central Coast Viticultural Area from which we source grapes. Our Monte Bello vineyards are in the Santa Cruz Mountains Viticultural Area which is not a part of the Central Coast. The 1967 vintage was our first wine from the Dusi Ranch. It was planted to zinfandel in 1922 which is unusual because Prohibition had started two years earlier. Purchased by Sylvester and Catarina Dusi in 1924, the property has been farmed since the 1940s by their son Benito, the owner.

FIRST RIDGE PASO ROBLES: 1967

GROWING SEASON

Rainfall: 24 inches

Bloom: Late May

Weather: Decent winter rain, totaling over 24 inches. A warm summer followed, ripening the grapes for a late August harvest. The yield was a bit below average but it came in quickly with excellent quality.

Harvest Dates: 25 August - 8 September

Grapes: Average Brix 25.4°

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: 100% natural primary and secondary fermentation; 100% submerged cap; pressed at ten days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried american oak barrels; 13% one year, 76% two years old, 11% three years old).

Aging: Eleven months in barrel

Benito Dusi Vineyard grapes, hand-harvested; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; 3.0% water addition; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush, 132ppm over the course of aging). Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



2017 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled 11/18
Abundant winter rains ended the five year drought, but storms during bloom reduced crop. A warm summer, ripened the grapes for a late August harvest. North and South parcels were fermented separately. Their appealing fruit and elegance allowed both to join the assemblage with a portion of the ripe canyon parcel added for richness. Enjoyable now, this delicious wine will develop fully over the next six years.

EB (8/18)



SITE

Benito Dusi's Vineyard is located three miles south of Paso Robles on the east side of Highway 101, within the Templeton Gap District. Soils: Rocky and gravelly, with areas of light soil.

Age of Vines: Zinfandel, 25 acres, ninety-six years old, planted 1922.

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned.

Yields: 2.4 tons per acre

RIDGE
VINEYARDS

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17100 Monte Bello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014
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