

RIDGE 2018

PASO ROBLES

ZINFANDEL

100% ZINFANDEL BENITO DUSI RANCH
PASO ROBLES 14.8% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

Benito Dusi's Ranch is the only zinfandel vineyard that Ridge sources from within the Central Coast Viticultural Area. The 1967 vintage was our first wine from the Dusi Ranch. It was planted to zinfandel in 1923 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. Benito passed away in 2019, leaving the care of the vineyard to his nephew, Mike.

FIRST RIDGE PASO ROBLES: 1967

VINTAGE

Rainfall: 12 inches (below normal)

Bloom: Late May

Weather: Winter rains were light this year, totaling less than 12 inches. A warm summer followed, ripening the grapes for a September harvest. The yield was average, with good ripeness.

Harvest Dates: 9 - 14 September

Grapes: Average Brix 25.8°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

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

Barrels: 100% air-dried American oak barrels (82% Appalachian, 18% Ozark); 16% new, 42% one- and two-year-old, 13% three-year-old, and 29% five-year-old).

Aging: Thirteen months in barrel

pH: 3.52

TA: 6.79 g/L

Benito Dusi Vineyard grapes, hand-harvested; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; 4.7% water addition; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur. Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



RIDGE
VINEYARDS

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2018 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled 12/19
Winter was unusually dry. If not for heavy rain in March, the vines would have struggled through summer. Late season heat accelerated ripening for an early September harvest. Fermentations were slow and the wines reached dryness only after being pressed and sent to barrel. Fourteen months in oak has added exotic spice and integrated tannins with its appealing fruit. It will be most enjoyable over the next seven years. EB (10/19)



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, planted in 1922.

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

Yields: 2.6 tons per acre

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