

# RIDGE 2021

## 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 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. Benito passed away in 2019, leaving the care of the vineyard to his nephew, Mike.

**FIRST RIDGE PASO ROBLES:** 1967

#### VINTAGE

**Rainfall:** Less than 5 inches (below normal)

**Bloom:** Early May

**Weather:** Winter rains were light this year. The zinfandel vines at Dusi came through the dry year with good yields.

**Harvest Dates:** 21 - 28 September

**Grapes:** Average Brix 25.5°

#### WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

**Fermentation:** 100% natural primary and secondary fermentation.

**Barrels:** 90% air-dried American oak, 10% French oak barrels (23% new, 31% one-year-old, 13% two-year-old, 7% three-year-old, and 26% four-year-old).

**Aging:** Sixteen months in barrel

**pH:** 3.59

**TA:** 7.6 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; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush, 108 ppm over the course of aging). 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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*2021 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled 12/22*  
During a very dry winter the vines were given two long, deep irrigations that provided the water needed to set a good crop. Despite a July heat spike, harvest unfolded in ideal conditions. The wine shows the exotic spice typical of the vineyard and the freshness of firm acidity. Fifteen months in oak has brought these elements into balance. Enjoyable on release, it will develop further over the next eight years. TG (10/22)



#### 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:** 2.72 tons per acre

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