

# RIDGE 2022

## PASO ROBLES

### ZINFANDEL

95% ZINFANDEL, 5% PETITE SIRAH BENITO DUSI RANCH  
PASO ROBLES 14.5% 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 12 inches (below normal)

**Bloom:** Early May

**Weather:** Typical hot days and cool nights to this region. The August heat spell accelerated ripening in zinfandel, bringing an early harvest.

**Harvest Dates:** 22 August - 21 September

**Grapes:** Average Brix 24.8°

#### WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

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

**Barrels:** 95% air-dried American oak, 5% French oak barrels (10% new oak, 5% French and 5% American, 10% one-year-old, 64% two-year-old, and 16% three-year-old).

**Aging:** Twelve months in barrel

**pH:** 3.38

**TA:** 8.1 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, 95 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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Exceptional single-vineyard wines since 1962.

#### 2022 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled 12/23

These old zinfandel vines on the Benito Dusi Ranch were planted in the 1920's. Despite a dry, warm growing season, a healthy crop was at optimal ripeness for a late August harvest just ahead of the record heat wave. Fifteen months in oak, rich, exotic fruit, fresh acidity, and a long finish make it enjoyable on release. It will develop beautifully over the next seven or eight years. TG (9/23)



#### 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:** 3 tons per acre

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