RIDGE 2024
PASO ROBLES
ZINFANDEL

100% ZINFANDEL BENITO DUSI RANCH
PASO ROBLES 14.9% 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: 17 inches (normal)
Bloom: Early May
Weather: Cool start to season, from early June on weather was warm to hot, leading to a condensed harvest.
Harvest Dates: 4 - 6 September
Grapes: Average Brix 25.1˚

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA
Fermentation: 100% natural primary and secondary fermentation.
Barrels: 100% air-dried American oak (15% new oak, 20% one-year-old, 65% four- and five-year-old).
Aging: Twelve 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; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush, 236 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.

2024 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled 12/25
Since 1967, Despite delayed budbreak, sustained summer heat quickly ripened the grapes for a late August harvest. Natural yeast fermentations completed within seven days. After pressing, the wine began malolactic in tank but was then sent to barrel to finish. Aging in twenty percent new American oak adds spice to the abundant fruit. Sensuous and immediately approachable, this classic Paso Robles Zinfandel can be enjoyed over the next six to seven years.
JO (10/25)

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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