

DARMS LANE

Napa Valley



2013 PETIT VERDOT, NAPA VALLEY

Vineyard: The Estate Bon Passe Vineyard is located in the southwestern bench lands of Napa Valley, in the Oak Knoll District appellation. The vineyard is planted of only 4 rows of Petit Verdot.

Appellation: Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley

Varietal: 100% Petit Verdot

Growing Season Notes: The 2013 vintage started out slightly earlier than normal with bud break in mid-March. Even temperatures and a slightly warmer first half of the growing season lead to expectations of a very early harvest. Things cooled down for August and into early September causing the grapes to slowly approach their peak. With a warming trend in September we began harvesting a few blocks on the estate. This was followed by ten days of cooler weather that permitted extended hang time. The early October weather in the low 90's helped push the Petit Verdot to it's peak ripeness allowing us to complete harvest by October 8th.

Details: Petit Verdot is considered a blending grape and we ferment and age a few barrels of it every year. Most years, it adds complexity to our Bon Passe Cabernet and Linda's Hillside Cabernet. In exceptional years, we keep a few barrels and bottle it on its own. The 2013 vintage is our sixth bottling of 100% estate grown Petit Verdot.

Winemaker: Brian Mox

Barrel Aging: 20 months in Oak – 60% new: 90% French, 10% American

Winemaker Tasting Notes: Our magnificent, dense purple colored Petit Verdot reveals notes of ripe and dark berries with hints caramel. The palate is rich with blueberries, violets, ground coffee flavors and displays serious tannins. Enjoy it now or aged, this wine is drinking beautifully now.

Production: 38 cases