

TOUCAN WINES

ESTATE ZINFANDEL

2010 Estate Petite Sirah

2010 in the vineyard

Winter rainfall was heavy on the central coast and spring seemed very cool and lingering. When I look back on my records, in hindsight, it was the most inconsistent weather I've tracked. In July, I note that the vineyard was at least two weeks behind normal and for that can mean rain and the loss of our crop. The cool weather slowed color change and forced extra green growth on the vines. The Estate Petite Sirah developed on the vine long before the Zinfandel, and during the last week of September we were struck with a heat wave that helped ripen the Petite – but damaged much of the Zinfandel.

Toward the end of the heat wave we began night-picking the Zinfandel, and on September 30th we picked all of the Petite Sirah. Rain struck us on October 5th and we knew the rest of this vintage's Zinfandel was lost. We removed the nets on October 18th, and more rain arrived on the 19th and the 25th. The small amount of Zinfandel we picked produced one of our best Estate Toucanet dessert wines to date. And with the Estate Petite Sirah, we totally lucked out.

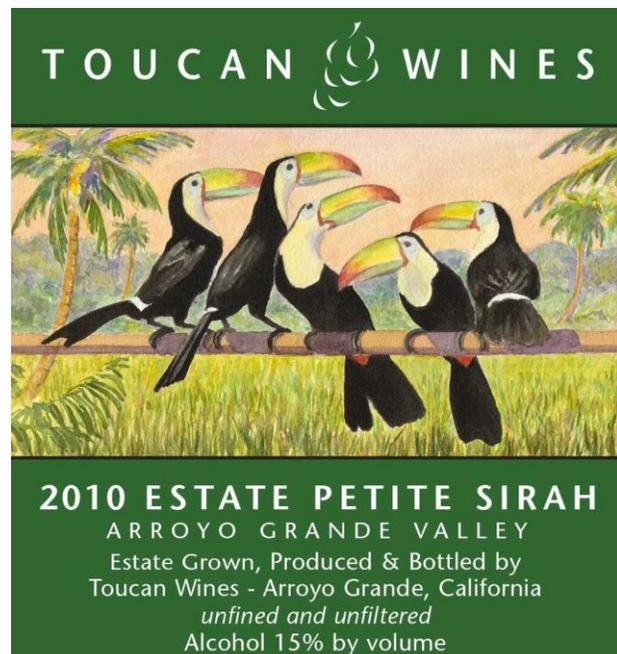
The Estate Petite Sirah came into the winery all at once, on a relatively mild day, and on the tail of a 5 day super-heatwave. At 25.5 brix, the Petite soaked up to 26 brix after 4 days of cold-soaking. Once yeast and nutrients were added, another 7 days of fermentation completed the job and we pressed the Petite to three barrels adding 17% Estate Zinfandel to the blend for the first time in our Petite production history.

The finished wine spent a full 22 months in two-thirds new oak barrels and one-third second term barrel. The result is outstanding. Deeper fruit and intense yet elegant oak, blend nicely to create an estate blend that should age for many years and develop beautifully in the bottle.

Inky purple; with lush ripe fruits, and sweet oak - this is again an elegant and beautiful representation from our vineyard. This wine will age for years and years.

Best enjoyed 2013 - 2020

Harvest: September 30th
Blend: 83% Estate Petite Sirah &
17% Estate Zinfandel
Bottled: August 9, 2012
Acid: .816
Alcohol: 15 %
Release: 65 cases produced



T O U C A N  W I N E S
E S T A T E Z I N F A N D E L

Hand Crafted, Estate Grown, Limited Production Wines

Toucan Wines is a husband and wife run micro-winery and 3½ acre vineyard producing hand-crafted estate grown Zinfandel and Petite Sirah wines with a total limited estate production of about 300 cases.

Toucan Wines is located on the beautiful central coast of California, deep in the foothills of the Arroyo Grande Valley AVA. Our small 3½ acre hillside vineyard is planted to "old clone" head-trained Zinfandel and Petite Sirah vines known for low-yields, looser clusters and balanced fruit. Our micro-climate helps produce an elegant yet forward Zinfandel and Petite Sirah with rich varietal flavors and balanced acidity - making our wines the perfect selection for fine food. We produce every wine without adjustment, and each is carefully aged in only the finest new oak, then hand-bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Husband and wife, Doug Timewell and Terrie Leivers farm the vines and produce the wines, we truly are a family winery - we planted the vineyard, we perform the vineyard work, and we produce and bottle the wines in our winery located next to our family home. Small by any standard, micro-winerries like ours are focused on quality - it's our focus, attention to detail, and limited production that helps set our wines apart.

Doug Timewell and Terrie Leivers

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