

TOUCAN WINES

2012 Estate Zinfandel

97 cases produced

2012 in the vineyard

This year is marked as an outstanding year for wine grape growing, and for being the first year of a three year drought on the central coast of California. 2012 was a year that winemakers dream about, with nearly perfect growing weather, textbook timing, and stunning fruit that produced, in the Toucan Vineyard, a full crop of well balanced and age-worthy wines.

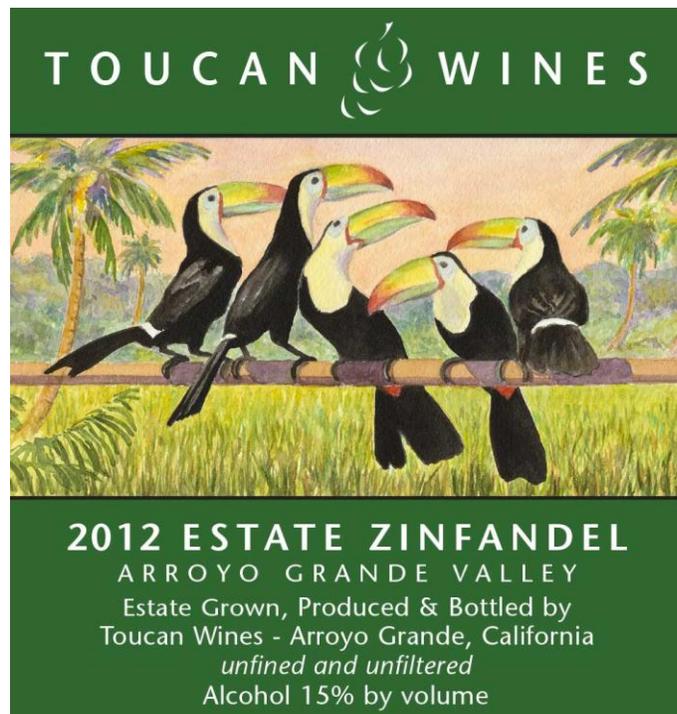
We completed pruning by mid-February and saw our first leaves on April 1st and bud-break throughout April. We suffered no frost damage, and less extreme weather in the form of wind or excessively hot days. My notes refer to the very dry conditions, but compared to the 2 years that followed, rainfall was fair, but still below average. Vine growth was normal and fruit-set was picture perfect. After selective fruit thinning and green growth removal, on August 4th we netted the vineyard as we began to see transformation in color. Harvest began October 3rd for the Estate Petite Sirah and September 22nd for our Estate Zinfandel fruit, and on October 28th we picked our final fruit of the season.

We selected 4 of the 10 barrels of Estate Zinfandel we produced to represent our first Estate Zinfandel release since the 2009 vintage. We added 10% Estate Petite Sirah and the resulting blend spent 20 months in 50% new and 50% one year old French oak barrels. On June 24th of 2014, we hand-bottled 97 cases, including a few larger format bottles.

We used the remaining barrels of our amazing Estate Zinfandel as the backbone for our 2012 Reserve Cuvee, a blend that includes our Estate Zinfandel, Estate Petite Sirah, and old vine Carignane.

Our 2012 Estate Zinfandel is a perfect example of the fruit our vineyard is capable of producing. A complex wine with brighter cherry-raspberry initially, and followed by a riper profile of rich berry and seductive oak. Balanced and build to last, like our 2005 and 2007, this wine is food ready and will develop for many years in the bottle. Drink 2015 - 2022

Harvest: Sept. 22nd – Oct. 7th
Bottled: June 24, 2014
Acid: .82TA 3.32pH
Alcohol: 15.0%
Release: 97 cases



TOUCAN WINES

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 unfined 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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