

# TOUCAN WINES

## 2013 Reserve Cuvee

### *Our Final Release*

#### **2013 in the vineyard**

Our 2013 Reserve Cuvee is blend of our Estate Zinfandel, Old Vine Carignane, and Estate Petite Sirah. All of our estate Zinfandel and Petite Sirah wine produced when into this blend, along with a healthy addition of Old Vine Carignane from the 125 year old Evangelho Vineyard.

Our estate vineyard suffered from a second year of a four year drought, but produced a high quality and reasonable volume of fruit given the lack of normal rain. 2013 marked the beginning of a pattern of early bud-break starting in early March. As a result, on April 16<sup>th</sup> we suffered frost damage in portions of the vineyard. We compensated by leaving extra new growth that in turn slightly improved fruit yield. Generally the weather was warm, dry, and development was ahead of normal. 104F was the high temperature for the season, but at these temps the fruit tends to dry out early and the vines begin to shut down. On September 17<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> we picked the Estate Petite Sirah and September 21<sup>st</sup> through October 7<sup>th</sup> we picked the Estate Zinfandel. Our Old Vine Carignane was picked from the Evangelho vineyard on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, our earliest ever from this vineyard.

The finished wines spent 26 months in 60% new oak barrels and 40% one year old barrels, a mix of French, Hungarian, and American (Virginia oak) barrels were used to develop and soften the wine. During its time in oak, I racked the wine three times, and blended all three wines into this one master blend. We produced and bottled only one other wine in 2013, a single barrel of Old Vine Carignane Dessert Wine.

Our 2013 Reserve Cuvee is our forth Cuvee release. Our first, from 2006, was called the Toucan Cuvee, the second was a Club release from 2008 called Redemption. The third is named Reserve Cuvee to mark the fact that we committed the majority of our stellar 2012 production to that one bottling, and the forth in 2013 has become our final release from Toucan Wines.

Released 4 years after being harvested. Our 2013 Reserve Cuvee is the perfect blend, balanced with complex fruit, and another of our wines that works perfectly with food. Big, rich, and complex - this wine will develop for many years in the bottle. Drink 2017 - 2025

Harvest: Sept. 3rd – Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Bottled: Dec. 4th, 2015  
Acid: .78TA  
Alcohol: 14.7%  
Release: 229 cases (750ml)

