DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE MUSCAT-À-PETITS GRAINS, SHENANDOAH VALLEY



100% Muscat. This white dessert wine is inspired by the delicious, fresh, fortified Muscats of the Southern Rhône. This is Muscat that isn't overly sweet. It has a delightful flowery, honeyed bouquet with hints of coconut and long, lush fruity flavors. Try it by itself, for a memorable end to an evening meal; great with desserts that include fresh berries, or maybe a pear tart with ginger and almonds.

Terre Rouge means "Red Earth." This vermillion-colored soil is one of the hallmarks of the region. The vineyards are in soils that are largely granite and volcanic-based. High elevation sites up to 3200' contribute to the complexity of the wines. Harvested ripe and fortified to arrest fermentation with Terre Rouge high-proof Muscat brandy made from grapes harvested earlier in the season and distilled by St. George Spirits. Aged ten months in both neutral French oak barrels and small stainless steel tanks.

Terre Rouge and Easton Wines is located on the West Slope of the Sierra Nevada in Amador County's Shenandoah Valley. An artisan winery established in 1986 by Bill Easton and Jane O'Riordan, they make 30 different wines, most of them very small lots. Each is unique and site-specific with a sense of place all of their own. The Terre Rouge portfolio is composed of wines made from Rhône varietals grown in the rugged and varying terroirs of the region. Winemaker Bill Easton puts his family name, Easton, on their non-Rhône-varietal wines. Easton wines are crafted from varietals that have traditionally worked the best in Amador County and the Sierra Foothills: ancient and old-vine Zinfandel, Barbera, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Sauvignon Blanc. Under the Easton label they also bottle small selections of varietals new to the Sierra Foothills: Pinot Noir and Cabernet Franc. At Terre Rouge and Easton they strive to manage their business and vineyards with as little impact on the environment as possible. The vineyards are farmed sustainably; they mow and plow and don't use chemicals. The style of their red wines emphasizes deep color, balanced flavors, a full middle palate, and a long finish with power and finesse. They gain complexity with age. Their whites are aromatic, flavorful, with nice texture and balanced with good acidity. They also show an amazing mineral sense that is derived from the stony mountain soils. Their goal for the last 25 years has always been to make the finest wines possible that can be placed on a table with the best wines of the world.

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Tasting Note:

DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE MUSCAT

100% Muscat. Flowery, honeyed aromas with coconut; long, lush fruity flavors; fresh.

Shelf Talker:

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