

LE P'TIT PAYSAN CABERNET SAUVIGNON, OLD VINES, SAN BENITO COUNTY



Old-Vine, Organic Cabernet Sauvignon with Petite Verdot and Cab Franc. Med-full bodied wine and low alcohol, allows nuances of dark black fruit, purple violets, and a slight hint of dried herbs to explode in the nose and on the palate.

The combination of well- drained, alluvial soils, old vines, daytime heat, and nighttime cool, creates fruit that is uncommonly structured and ripe, yet fresh and mineral driven.

The Cabernet Sauvignon was sourced from 3 vineyards: the 60-year-old Brigantino Vineyard, the 45-year-old Wheeler and the 75-year-old Tres Pinos Creek Vineyard Ranch. The soils are calcareous and silty alluvial deposits. All the cab vineyards are either practicing or certified organic, or in the process of converting to organic farming. Petite Verdot and Cabernet Franc are from Paicines AVA, rocky alluvial deposits above the Tres Pinos arroyo. All vineyards experience warm days and cold nights, allowing the late ripening Bordeaux varieties to be picked at high acidity and moderate sugars. Made in the style of the classic 1970s California Cabernets. Fermented whole berry (de-stemmed) with a very light crush in open top fermenters. Pressed after approx 20 days. Aged for 11 months on lees in mostly neutral barrels with a couple of active oak barrels.

Ian Brand puts a lot of miles on his car exploring & discovering great vineyards at the edge of sensible farming in Central California. He finds the remote, challenging vineyards, that are capable of producing only the most idiosyncratic wines, with hard depleted soils & intense sunlight tempered only by the coastal breeze. His goal is to lightly polish the roughest edges & leave the idiosyncrasy intact. It is there in the back country of Monterey & San Benito county that Ian's wines come to life. The value-driven, French inspired Le P'tit Paysan line (the name refers to the French term for a country peasant) presents unpretentious, French-inspired "country" wines.

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Tasting Note:

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Old-Vine, Organic Cab Sauv with Petite Verdot & Cab Franc. Med-full bodied with low alcohol; black fruit, aromas & flavors of violets & dried herbs; uncommonly structured & ripe, yet fresh & mineral driven.

Shelf Talker:

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