

DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE ASCENT SYRAH



100% Syrah. A deeply concentrated wine with dense layers of aromatic complexity. Loads of spicy floral aromas fill your glass. In the mouth you'll find thick and riotous meaty Syrah flavors, smoky wood tones, exotic spices, mineral tones and fine tannins.

Great structure. Plush, elegant and silky texture that will benefit from several years in the bottle.

Rouge means "Red Earth". This vermilion-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. Ascent Syrah represents the pinnacle of Syrah production at Terre Rouge. Each year Bill Easton crafts this Syrah from several Sierra Foothills vineyard sites ranging up to 3000' elevation. Eight of their very best barrels of Syrah are selected to make a meager 400-600/6 packs of this luxury cuvée. All of the grapes were grown in selected Syrah sites scattered throughout the Sierra Nevada in granite and volcanic-based soils. The grapes were macerated for two weeks in an open-top fermenter with punch-downs two to three times a day. The wine was aged for 23 months in new French oak barrels and lightly fined prior to being bottled unfiltered.

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 varieties grown in the rugged and varying terroirs of the region. Winemaker Bill Easton puts his family name, Easton, on their non-Rhône varieties: Easton wines are crafted from varieties 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 varieties 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, 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:

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Shelf Talker:

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