

# DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE MOURVÈDRE, SIERRA FOOTHILLS



100% Mourvèdre. Full-bodied flavors that beguile with smoky and spicy aromatics, balanced gamey flavors and nice length on the palate. They use cellaring techniques that involve a long lees reduction, to help broaden and fill the middle palate with great textural sensations. The flavors are of blackberry and with a meatiness that is typical of the variety. It is classically Bandol-like and expressive. Here you have a fabulous partner for wild game, lamb and wild salmon.

Terre 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. These grapes come from the Baldinelli Vineyard, which was planted in 1972. The growing season is long and cool, in red, iron-laden soils of grainy, decomposed granite. Warm days moderated by afternoon delta breezes and cool night air from the High Sierra peaks just 50 miles to the East. The fruit matures slowly. Aging takes place for two years in French Bordeaux barrels. 50% are new, the remainder from the two previous years. Aged in bottle an additional two years.

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 MOURVÈDRE, SIERRA FOOTHILLS

100% Mourvèdre. Smoky & spicy aromatics; full-bodied, balanced gamey flavors with blackberry & a meatiness that is typical of the variety; nice length.

## *Shelf Talker:*

### DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE SIERRA FOOTHILLS MOURVÈDRE



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