



2019 Aratas “Napa Valley” Petite Sirah

Aratas ...translation: a “harvest of gold” pays tribute to our Chohany family Hungarian heritage.

This Petite Sirah hails from Carpy Conolly Ranch, a 175 acre property which runs along the valley spine just east of the Napa River in the Rutherford AVA (c.1993) The Gamble Family, stewards of the CC Ranch, have nurtured American Heritage Petite Sirah in Napa Valley for over 100 years. This exceptionally prized vineyard straddles the belt which delineates the narrowest mid-point of the valley floor. It’s planted upon an ancient alluvial fan with deep well-drained gravelly soil, an abundance of sunshine but tempered by a veil of fog which often slips down from the north coast.

As typical for us, we encourage our wines to express the provenance of terroir through single vineyard bottlings. This bottling is produced from a blend of two historic Petite Sirah clones, Martini and Quixote planted adjacent to one and other.

The dormant season on 2019 ended with extraordinary rains, frost and extremely unusual snowfall in the upper elevations. The vines slowly stirred from slumber breaking bud in mid- march just after the rains eased. The growing season progressed tepidly until heat spikes in late July kicked veraison into gear which nudged tertiary development to catch up. Warmer temps continued to drive ripening then suddenly harvest was upon us. The grapes were hand harvested in the wee hours of Oct 5th.

Fermentation: Clusters were Selectiv’ optically sorted then left to cold soak for 5 days; the juice was fermented in 30% new Hungarian Oak barrels on native yeast for 27 months before bottling unfiltered, unfinned then cellared for an additional 2 years in bottle.

Tasting impressions: white pepper, current, long pepper, tamarin, black licorice and the redolent flavors or blackberry, blueberry, dried fig and dark chocolate

100% American Heritage Petite Sirah [Clones: Quixote and Martini]

Napa Valley (Rutherford AVA)

14.8% Alc./Vol. 5.8 TA 3.74 PH

Winemaker, Matt Sunseri Vintner, Stephanie Douglas

“Best Wines from Rutherford” The Robb Report
“Double Gold” San Francisco Chronicle Competition
“Gold Medal” 90 Pts Sunset International Wine Competition