

Americano



VARIETAL COMPOSITION

Petite Sirah
81% Petite Sirah
17% Cabernet Sauvignon
2% Merlot

APPELLATION California

VINTAGE 2011

WINEMAKER Greg Kitchens

ALCOHOL 13.5%

PH 3.55 TA 6.1 g/L

UPC 8 33302 00526 4

2011 PETITE SIRAH

HISTORY

In 1895, my great-grandfather, Samuele Sebastiani, emigrated from Italy to America to create his own opportunities. Soon after settling in Sonoma, he made his first 500 gallon barrel of wine, applying skills taught to him by his parents. With hearts full of love and good humor, the family in Italy called their now-distant relative "l'Americano".

After just a few years, he made it big. As it turned out his proud Tuscan bravado and the "Americano" way of doing things were a good match. That is, bigger is better.

In his honor, we craft this wine in a style that is larger-than-life, with class and elegance.

Donny

- Don August Sebastiani, Jr.

TASTING NOTES

Americano 2011 Petite Sirah explodes out of the glass with bold aromas of freshly baked blueberry pie, vanilla and toasted brioche, while notes of chocolate covered espresso beans add another layer of complexity. On the palate, this well-balanced, full-bodied wine delivers flavors of cherry cider, red currant, cardamom, hints of sandalwood and bold tannins with an appealing sour cherry finish. This wine will complement a range of fare such as Italian sausage with fennel, onions and peppers, baked ziti in marinara sauce, or grilled rib eye steak with sautéed mushrooms.

APPELLATION

With its moderate climate, and diverse terroir, the state of California offers many distinct AVAs. For this Americano Petite Sirah, grapes were sourced from a handful of regions, most notably Lodi. The Lodi AVA is located in the Central Valley of California, at the northern edge of the San Joaquin Valley, east of the San Francisco Bay. Lodi wine country has a climate that is cooled by winds and fog from the San Francisco Bay. Because of a break in the Coastal Mountain Range to the west, Lodi vineyards enjoy a more moderate climate than many other regions. Lodi's terrain is composed of well-drained, mineral-rich soils.

Small lots of Cabernet Sauvignon from Alexander Valley and Napa Valley enhance the structure and complexity of this Petite Sirah. Both of these regions are recognized and respected for producing world class Cabernet Sauvignon. Fruit from Sonoma Valley and Knights Valley also play supporting roles. Showcasing the depth and diversity of California's wine growing, subtle nuances of the terroir of each of these AVAs come together seamlessly in Americano 2011 Petite Sirah.

VINTAGE

The 2011 vintage was challenging for growers. It was an unusually cool year with a late frost that affected many vineyards, reducing yields and delaying harvest. The weather remained unseasonably cool through much of the growing season, and was devoid of any real grape ripening heat spikes until well into September. Rain and lower temperature returned again in October, further reducing yields and raising concerns of botrytis. These early rain events gave way to the long-awaited Indian summer, with the grapes finally reaching full maturity. While the harvest wasn't abundant, the emerging crop displayed powerfully concentrated flavors and quality.