

TOUCAN WINES

ESTATE ZINFANDEL

2007 Estate Zinfandel

2007 in the vineyard...

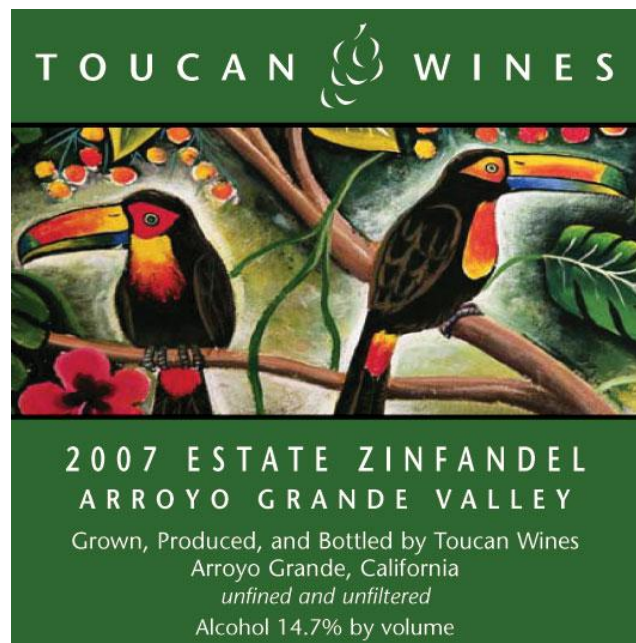
A dry and cold winter allowed us to complete pruning in January, but nights of hard-freezes for a seven day stretch damaged water lines, foliage on trees and ultimately meant the end for several vines in our vineyard. The rains never came in spring and drought conditions resulted in early stress in the vineyard forcing less established vines to give up their fruit. Vines less stressed by the loss of rain set less fruit than normal on a schedule more typical of 2004 or 2005 vintages. The clusters and the berries formed this year were both smaller and more concentrated. The consistent warmth and relatively dry weather that dominated the growing season also produced less foliage on the vines, fewer weeds and overall the yield was less than expected. Very little vine thinning was required in July to expose the fruit to sun and air-flow and as veraison started we noticed the vines slowing and starting an early seasonal shut-down. By mid August the vineyard was entirely netted and we began our wait for harvest.

Harvest of small batches of Estate Zinfandel began on September 15th through the 28th and on September 29th we harvested the Estate Petite Sirah. The fruit came into the winery in perfect condition with nearly identical numbers to the 2005 vintage. Several days of cold soaking led to a slow fermentation in small open bins. After a gentle pressing, we placed the wine in 60% new French, Hungarian, and American oak barrels. First racked and blended in May of 08' and again in December, the 2007 Estate Zinfandel aged in fine oak for a total 16 months. Our 2007 Estate Zinfandel includes 10% 2007 Estate Petite Sirah and we proudly bottled 245 cases on February 10th of 2009, unfinned and unfiltered. A separate bottling of 35 cases of the 2007 Estate Petite Sirah was also bottled from our estate vineyard.

The finished wine...

After 16 months in barrel and another year in the bottle, the 07' is a beautiful garnet/purple with a nose of ripe wild cherry, and tastes of multi-layered ripe fruits, elegant, with a back bone of fine oak. This vintage is similar to our 2005 Estate Zinfandel in style, elegance and flavor, but bolder in body and mouth-feel. Best enjoyed between 2010 - 2015

Harvest: September 15th – 29th
Bottled: February 10, 2009
Acid: .784
Alcohol: 14.7%
Release: 245 cases (release 2010)



T O U C A N  W I N E S
E S T A T E Z I N F A N D E L

Hand Crafted, Estate Grown, Limited Production Wines

Toucan Wines is a California micro-winery and 3 ½ acre vineyard producing hand-crafted estate grown Zinfandel and Petite Sirah wines with a limited total production of about 400 cases.

Toucan Wines is located on the beautiful central coast of California, in the Arroyo Grande Valley AVA, in the foothills near the Huasna Valley on a ranch known as Tar Springs. Our small 3½ - acre hillside vineyard is planted to "old clone" head-trained Zinfandel and Petite Sirah vines known for low-yields, looser clusters and balanced fruit. Grafted from the 1923 planting of the highly regarded Benito Dusi vineyard in Paso Robles, these vines thrive by producing intense Zinfandel fruit in our microclimate of warm-to-hot days and cool nights.

Our micro-climate produces an elegant and forward Zinfandel and Petite Sirah with finesse found in the finest wines made in California. Our cool nights and warm days help deliver rich varietal favors and balanced acidity making our wines the perfect selection for fine food.

We truly are a family run farm and winery, we planted the vines, we perform the vineyard work, and we produce the wines on-site. As a friend said recently "every grape cluster has our name on it". We marry this fabulous fruit with both traditional and modern winemaking on a scale that makes us one of the smallest wineries and estate vineyards in California.

Small by any standard, micro-wineries like ours are focused on quality – it's our focus, attention to detail, and limited production that helps set our wines apart. The winery, located in the estate vineyard and next to the family home, produces a full-bodied and richly flavored Zinfandel and Petite Sirah taking full advantage of what the old style vines and microclimate have to offer.

2007 Releases

2007 Toucan Wines Estate Zinfandel (2010)
2007 Toucan Wines Estate Petite Sirah (2010)
Toucan Wines Estate Toucanet (2009)

Doug Timewell and Terrie Leivers

Visit us at www.ToucanWines.com