

TOUCAN WINES

Estate Toucanet

Mutage d'esprit
Sweet Dessert Wine

Our Estate Toucanet is the premier release of a wine produced from the desire to make an entirely estate based Porto styled dessert wine. Produced from both Estate Zinfandel and Petite Sirah, a blend of three barrels from our 2007 vintage and one from our 2008 late harvested vintage, all of which have been fortified or Mutage with brandy spirits distilled from our 2006 Estate Zinfandel and aged in mostly new fine oak for up to 22 months. This sweet dessert wine is made in the style of age-worthy Porto wines.

Select estate Zinfandel and Petite Sirah, harvested from our small vineyard, once crushed, was cold soaked pre-fermentation for several days. A slow fermentation with special yeast ended with the fortification of fine brandy - Mutage d' esprit.

2007 in the vineyard...

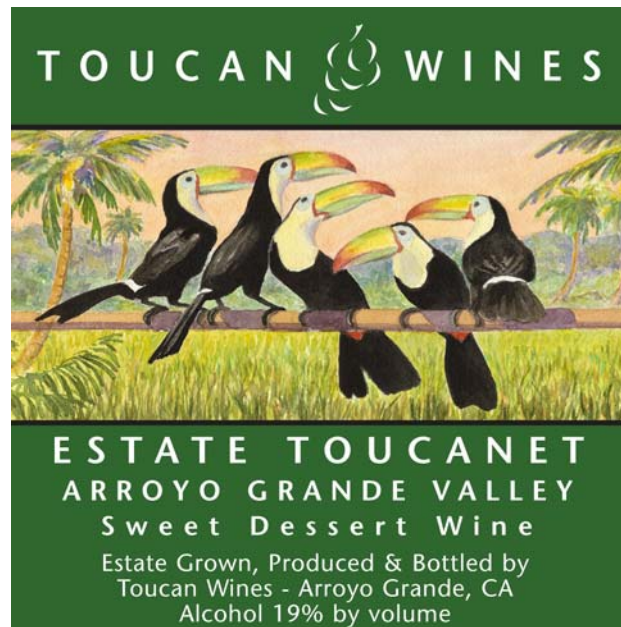
A dry and cold winter allowed us to complete pruning in January, but nights of hard-freezes for a seven days damaged water lines, foliage on trees and ultimately meant the end for several vines in the vineyard. The rains never came in spring and drought conditions resulted in early stress in the vineyard forcing less established vines to give up their fruit. Vines less stressed by the draught set less fruit then 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. 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.

The finished wine...

Bottled: July, 2009
Acid: .65 / 3.38pH
Alcohol: 19%
RS: 12%
Release: 300 six pack cases
\$32/btl retail (500ml)

Aging in fine oak barrels for up to 22 months produced an incredible and lovely sweet dessert styled wine that tastes of bright sweet fruits, deep raspberry liquor, wild cherry-vanilla, with rich hints of mocha.

Presented in 500ml traditional Porto bottles and sporting a new image of five Toucans, this wine is ready to enjoy now and will hold for up to ten years with proper storage.



TOUCAN WINES

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.

New Releases

Toucan Wines Estate Toucanet
2007 Toucan Wines Estate Petite Sirah (coming February, 2010)
2007 Toucan Wines Estate Zinfandel (coming February, 2010)
2008 Toucan Wines "old vine" Carignane (coming February 2010)

Doug Timewell and Terrie Leivers

Visit us at www.ToucanWines.com