



PEARSON'S Wine & Spirits Newsletter

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* WORD'S GETTING AROUND:

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Petite Sirah. Direct descendent of Syrah. Along with Zinfandel, Petit Sirah is considered California's "other" native wine.

The first Petite Sirah wines were produced by Concannon and Souverain in 1961. Although only about 3,200 acres of Petit Sirah are planted in California, there are now at least 60 wineries making some . . . in relatively small quantities.

We tasted it only a month ago. It coats your palate. This is hearty wine . . . dark, almost black. The fruit is opulent and dense and almost sweet on the palate. Drink it with dishes as hearty as the wine. The winery suggests beef Wellington, barbeque smoked prime rib, venison in a black currant sauce, or a good old-fashioned pot roast. The \$20 price tag is a surprise to everyone who tastes it . . . "that's all?" they ask.

Rosenblum's Petit Sirah is grown 40 miles east of San Francisco in the foothills of Mt Diablo, also known as Contra Costa. The winemaker believes this area will become known as the mecca of Petit Sirah. The vineyards are 80 to 100 years old. The blends are aged in both American and French oak.

The Wine & Cheese Society did a Petite Sirah tasting Tuesday night. The Rosenblum was a show stopper. Then quite coincidentally, Ben Giliberti featured it in his wine column the next day.

Like I say . . . word's getting around.

ROSENBLUM CELLARS PETITE SIRAH, HERITAGE CLONES, 2004

"Opaque blue purple in color, this thrilling wine offers a lovely inner core of violets and blueberries and finishes with a chorus of ripe, round tannins. Superb." Ben Giliberti, Washington Post, April 26, 2006
EMAIL PRICE \$19.99

OPEN FOR TASTING

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Steve Silver, Proprietor



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