

Vina Robles

E W S L E T T E R

Summer 05

Dear Friends,

People often ask me how I fell in love with Paso Robles – how a Swiss native like me came to California’s Central Coast to start a family winery.

Part of the answer is in the air. I simply love the climate here. I find the dry afternoon heat to be invigorating and uplifting, and I find the cool coastal evenings to be refreshing. I can both work and sleep well in this magnificent climate.



Hans Nef & his daughter, Michèle.

The same could be said for our grapes. The afternoon warmth ripens the grapes to full maturity, while the cool nights give them time to rest. The result is a long growing season that enables our fruit to achieve world-class balance and complexity.

The other part of the answer is in the community that I found here, both locally and within the wine industry. Paso Robles is a friendly place, with a pioneering spirit and an optimistic energy. Similarly, the wine industry in California is less restrictive than in Europe, affording me a taste of the “American dream.”

So my story is the story of a place that is perfectly suited for both people and grapes – which is ultimately what wine is all about.

Best regards,

Hans Nef

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FEATURED WINE

2002 Petite Sirah – Jardine Vineyard

While Petite Sirah's origins reside in France, the grape has become virtually synonymous with California. Indeed, Petite Sirah finds its finest expression in the warm, dry and consistent environs that define much of California's winegrowing geography.

Paso Robles is particularly suited for Petite Sirah. Here, where the Mediterranean climate is tempered by cooling marine breezes, the grape ripens steadily and gains full varietal expression with rich flavors and peppery nuances—which is why I have made Petite Sirah a centerpiece of our winemaking program.



Tasting and Pairing Notes

Our 2002 Petite Sirah offers intense aromas of boysenberry and blueberry with accents of toasty oak. Juicy flavors of plum and blackberry anticipate hints of clove, vanilla and pepper. A bright, balanced texture finishes with ripe tannins and lingering fruit. This wine is an excellent match for hearty autumn and holiday fare, including spicy lamb stew, braised prime rib, and pot roast with mushrooms and herbs.

Vineyard

Our estate Jardine Vineyard lies at the corner of Jardine and Tower roads north of Highway 46 in Paso Robles. The soil is composed primarily of alluvial sandy loam, with contributions of gravelly loam and clay loam, ultimately ensuring excellent drainage for low vine vigor and assertive flavor development.



M. Gubler

Matthias Gubler, Winemaker