



# 2021 DRY CREEK VALLEY PETITE SIRAH



**HARVEST:** September 11, 2021

**BRIX:** 26°

**TA:** 0.62g/100ml **pH:** 3.5

**RS:** 0.53%

**BOTTLED:** March 1, 2023

**PRODUCTION:** 153 cases

**Winemaking:** We handled the fruit in the gentlest way possible: hand-sorted and fermented in small open-top fermenters with minimum hand punch-downs daily. As usual, the most effort was in extracting as much of the beautiful Petite aromas without the harsh tannins. Malolactic fermentation was completed in barrels; then, the wine was aged in 25% new French oak barrels for about seventeen months.

**Gold** – 2023 North Coast Wine Challenge  
**Best of Class, Gold Medal** – 98 Points –  
2023 LA International Wine Competition  
**93 Points** – Wine Enthusiast June/July 2023

**Vineyard:** The grapes are from the Coyote Ridge upper block vineyard situated almost in the middle of Dry Creek Valley. This tiny 1.2-acre vineyard is planted on decomposed rocks and brick red Manzanita-type soils very well suited for low-pH Petites with deep red color and solid, age-worthy structure. The vineyard is about 27 years old now and dry-farmed. The yield in 2021 was the lowest I've seen in the last 20 years!

**The Vintage:** The 2021 harvest year was near perfect for growing grapes and a second year of a lighter-than-normal crop. The berry size was smaller than average, delivering exceptional flavors, intense color, and beautiful grapes—fruit-forward and ripe. The season started early and was cold. We had no long, lingering heatwaves in 2021, leading to relatively early to expected harvest dates, with most grapes ripening simultaneously.

**Winemaker's Description:** The wine has distinct blueberry and blackberry aromas with hints of violets, followed by subtle vanilla, brown sugar, cinnamon, and slight toast aromas. The mouthfeel is solid, medium-bodied, and remarkably soft and elegant (for Petite Sirah) tannins, accentuating the wine's long and juicy finish. Petite Sirah wines, when balanced, are very versatile food-pairing wines. This wine will satisfy your palate with many of your favorite dishes. Petite Sirah can give most Cabernet Sauvignons "a run for their money" when paired with grilled meats and longevity. The wine is delicious now, but it will be even better with patience and proper aging in 3-8 years.