

NADEAU

Family Vintners

2004 Zinfandel Late Harvest Paso Robles

The **Winery**

Nadeau Family Vintners is the result of years of effort by Robert Nadeau and his wife, Patrice. Together they renovated a tiny barn in the mountains west of Paso Robles, transforming it into an efficient, well-equipped micro-winery. Old-world styled vineyards have been planted on the slopes surrounding the building...most of the planting is dedicated to dry-farmed, head-trained Zinfandel, with an acre or so devoted to Grenache Noir and Petite Sirah. Situated at the top of Peachy Canyon, the property is generally above the morning fog and usually receives about twice the rainfall seen below in Paso Robles.

The **Wine**

The Nadeau Family Vintners' 2004 "Late Harvest" Zinfandel is intended to resemble the "wood-aged" wines of Oporto, with its noticeable residual sugar (2.6%), slight tawny character, and soft tannins. We did not want the overpowering alcohols normally associated with Port wine (which is usually about 20 percent,) so we opted not to fortify this cuvee with spirits (brandy) which is the normal process. Rather, we let the fermentation stop naturally at 16.1% alcohol.

This wine's sweet black-cherry aromas and flavors, which are intertwined with subtle oak and a slight nuttiness, make this wine is an ideal accompaniment to chocolate desserts and stimulating conversation.

This wine is ready to drink now and will not likely benefit from significantly more bottle age.

The **Blend**

100% Zinfandel

The **Vital Statistics**

100% Paso Robles Appellation

100% 2004 Vintage

100% Estate

Harvest: August; Sugar @ Harvest: exceeded 30 Brix; TA: 0.69 gm./100mL; pH: 3.39

Residual Sugar: 2.6gm/100mL

Finished Wine EtOH: 16.1% By Vol.

The grapes were fermented in small, open-top fermentors with commercial (proprietary) yeast for 9 days on their skins then pressed in a small, horizontal basket-press. This wine was racked using a nitrogen blanket and/or gravity. Aged in 2 two American Oak barrels until it was racked, filtered and bottled *unfined*.

The 2004 Vintage yielded about 100 cases of 375 ml bottles.

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