

NADEAU

Family Vintners

2009 Mixed Black

Estate Reserve Blend

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 considerably higher rainfall than seen below in Paso Robles.

The Wine

This full-bodied blend is comprised of Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, and Grenache – all from our Estate-grown fruit.

This release of Mixed Black is a bit of a departure from recent vintages, as it minimizes Grenache and favors Zinfandel (55%) and keeps Petite Sirah at about 1/3 of the composition (35%.) American and European oak-aging has offered the **2009 Mixed Black** soft oak tannins accompanied by subtle spice nuances. This nicely structured wine features a pleasant, round mouthfeel with bright fruit aromas and flavors. The Grenache provides the blend with a slight earthiness and pepper character, while the abundant Zinfandel in the blend really pulls the fruity raspberry notes forward. Naturally, the Petite Sirah lends its dark color and abundant tannins to the finished blend. This wine received plenty of oak aging, so further bottle aging isn't necessary, but it's encouraged.

The Blend

55% Zinfandel
35% Petite Sirah
10% Grenache

The Vital Statistics

100% Paso Robles Appellation
100% 2009 Vintage
Harvest date: September & October, 2009
Finished Alcohol: 14.4% by Vol.

The three **estate** cuvees were fermented individually in open-top fermentors with commercial (proprietary) yeast. These resulting must was fermented for 9-12 days on their skins then pressed in a small, horizontal basket-press. Aged in *American and Hungarian Oak Barrels* for 27 months

The 2009 Vintage yielded just over 100 cases.