

2017
Red Blend



by
Matchbook

BLEND

53% Petit Verdot
24% Malbec
23% Cabernet Sauvignon

APPELLATION California

TA: 6.57 g/L pH: 3.78 ALC: 13.9%

PRODUCTION: 23,000 cases

BARRELS

Blended and aged 24 months in a combination of French, American and European/American hybrid barrels, approximately 30% of which are new:

- Carpathian oak from Giraud Cooperage and Trust Cooperage
- American oak from Cooperage 1912 "Profile Series"
- Demptos hybrid American and European
- French oak from Giraud Cooperage

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2017 Arsonist Red Blend is our left of center take on the classic Bordeaux blend. Anchored by Petit Verdot this robust red has loads of earthy leather and brambly fruit in the bouquet. The blend of three powerhouse reds delivers broad flavors of plum, blackberry, mocha and vanilla; barrel aging adds a nice dose of oak and a grip of tannin. The finish lingers with boysenberry and old-fashioned cigar box. This full-flavored red calls for a thick steak or a big prime rib.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

Petit Verdot (53%): The backbone of The Arsonist Red Blend, this thick-skinned grape yields concentrated, tannic wines with lots of color. Aged properly, Petit Verdot rounds out to develop rich, thick, full-structured wines. The Petit Verdot for this blend is from three of the Matchbook Estate Vineyards in the Dunnigan Hills: Richie Ranch, Gemmer and Lederer.

Malbec (24%): This deeply colored grape contributes inky dark color, tannins and flavors of plum and dark chocolate to the blend. The Malbec in the 2017 Arsonist Red Blend adds to the richness of the mid-palate and is entirely from Matchbook Estate's Gemmer vineyard.

Cabernet Sauvignon (23%): A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon from Sweetwater in Chalk Hill, Salley Vine Vineyard in Alexander Valley and Gemmer vineyard in Dunnigan Hills adds length and depth to The Arsonist Red Blend. Due to its thick skin, Cabernet Sauvignon develops deep blue hues of black fruit with big tannins that allow the blend to develop and age well over the years.



HISTORY OF SUCCESS – GOLD & 90 pts. - Critics Challenge Intl Wine & Spirits Competition, 4 Years of Consecutive 90+ pts. - Wine Enthusiast, v2015, 2014, 2013, 2012

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