



2021 Palisades Vineyard

Petite Sirah

Calistoga, Napa Valley

— R O B E R T —
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V I N E Y A R D S

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Domenico Barberis sure knew great potential when he saw it. The young immigrant was from the same village in Italy, Murialdo, as Bob Biale's grandmother—Nonna Cristina Biale. Barberis came to Calistoga in 1902 and soon thereafter was able to start a vineyard and ranch with his large family at the scenic Horns Creek property. The Palisades Vineyard owners now are Felicia Woytak and Steve Rasmussen, who take great pride as stewards of this historic landmark.

This eastern side of Calistoga features the spectacular geological formation named the Palisades. These dramatic west-facing cliffs are composed of igneous rock and were formed from volcanic upheaval millennia ago. The geological formation stretches for over two miles and reaches elevations at over 3000 ft. It's no wonder the farmland below is perfectly suited for wine grapes. An active creek bed, stone, gravel, and well-drained soil, not to mention extended sunlight, are ideal conditions for ripening grapes for red wines.

Vintage Notes: The growing season saw rain in January and February then almost no notable precipitation for the rest of the season. This provided an ideal environment for grapes to flower, bloom and set in early spring. Budbreak was early in April followed by flowering and bloom in May. The summer saw early and even ripening with no concerning heat spikes. Everything tended early thanks to the calm spring with veraison appearing in early July. Due in part to the drought, yields were naturally lower, resulting in less dropping of fruit in the vineyards. It was one of the earliest starts to harvest on record. Harvest kicked off with clear skies and almost no weather events to worry winemakers. This allowed the grapes to hang as long as winemakers wanted to achieve optimal ripening and taste.

Harvest Dates: September 9th

Winemaking: Our winemaking begins in the vineyard with meticulous attention to detail and close monitoring by Bob Biale and winemaker David Natali. Fruit is hand-harvested, sorted in the field, and sorted again at the winery. Destemmed, the grapes are then fermented in open top tanks with punch downs gently carried out two to three times per day. Pressed, the wine undergoes malolactic fermentation in 100% French oak barrels, of which 30% is new. Aged for 16 months in barrel.

Alcohol: 14.7%

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: A generous and inviting nose with aromas of violet, lavender, blackberry, and leather in the glass. Richly textured, the palate offers notes of black cherry, dark plum, dried fig, sandalwood, star anise, cacao, and blueberries. A dense and broad wine finishes with finely grained and well-integrated tannins.

Only 311 cases produced.