



Jeff Runquist Wines

2019 “R” PETIT VERDOT, *Damir Ranch, Stanislaus County*



Petit Verdot along with Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Malbec is one of the five major red grape varieties grown in Bordeaux. Although Petit Verdot is highly valued for its color, structure, and lovely violet scent, the French don't grow very much of it. The 'Right Bank' of appellations of Pomerol and St-Emilion grow virtually no Petit Verdot. Chateau Margaux and Chateau Angelus are among the leaders in Petit Verdot cultivation and neither has more than ten percent of its vineyards planted to this variety.

Petit Verdot is the last of the Bordeaux varieties to ripen, so even though French winemakers wax poetic about the qualities of this grape the climate in Bordeaux isn't warm enough for Petit Verdot to thrive. There just isn't enough sunshine to ripen this variety. In the post war years, Petit Verdot fully ripened in only one out of five vintages. In the 1980s, with improved growing techniques, every third year Petit Verdot would ripen.

The 2019 Petit Verdot has a deep dark purple color with garnet hues with just a hint of carmine. Aromas of triple berry pie filling; blackberry, marionberry and dark cherry are teamed with a bouquet of soft creamy mocha that lift gracefully from the glass. Flavors reminiscent of a buttery black currant pastry are delivered by a wine with a smooth supple texture. The tannins are mature and feed a long finish with flavors of deeply toasted oak lingering well after the wine is gone. This is an elegant red wine that doesn't require any time in the cellar to be savored and enjoyed, and it comes from a grape that deserves more respect than its getting.

100% Petit Verdot

13.8% Alc., 0.64 g/100ml TA, 3.63 p

40% French Oak 39% American Oak 21% Neutral Oak

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Producers of Vineyard Designated Red Table Wines