

Good Evening! I finished the March Newsletter & updated menu, attached! Thank you...

Come and Join us on Friday, March 1st for a taste of Petite Sirah. Be sure to tell all your friends! Feel free to forward this email

- **Time: 4-8**
- **Cost: \$20 Full Pour**
- **1/2 Pour \$12**

The Wines:

2011 Chronic Cellars Sofa Queen Bueno Paso Robles \$21

The thought this wine had a little more Petite Sirah, 79% Syrah, 12% Mourvedre, 5% Petite Sirah, 4% Grenache. Aromas: Black Licorice, violets, clove, bay leaves, and thyme. Tastes: Fresh Berries, Black Pepper, Licorice, Clove, and Thyme. This wine is youthful and fleshy! Bueno has many layers that fill the nose and palate. It is a full bodied wine with balanced tannins and different spices. .

2011 J Scott Petite Sirah Rogue Valley, Oregon \$23.50

This wine is anything BUT petite. It is black as midnight. It offers jammy fruit on the nose and a big chewy texture. This wine is yummy now but has the structure to age for many many years.....if you have the patience to wait. If not, we'll make more :)89 pts. Wine Enthusiast (March 2013) Gold Medal- 2011 Newport Wine and Seafood festival Gold Medal- Astoria Wine Festival 2012 Double Gold! Oregon Wine Awards 2012

2010 Girard Petite Sirah Napa Valley \$25

Girard's 2010 Petite Sirah is an absolutely beautiful bottle of wine. Sweet black currants, spices, violets, asphalt and grilled herbs all take shape in this mid-weight, yet luscious red. This is a decidedly refined, plush Petite Syrah with lovely balance, but little of the weight or firmness usually associated with the grape, which can be good or bad, depending on one's point of view. The wine's balance, however, is beyond reproach. This is a great showing from Girard. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2025. 93 Points Robert Parker

2009 Earthquake Petite Sirah \$25

The outstanding 2009 Petite Sirah Earthquake (100% Petite Sirah) is a 6,000-case cuvee aged in French oak. A super value, it boasts an opaque purple color along with notes of blueberry and blackberry liqueur, camphor and violets as well as a long finish. Drink this killer value over the next decade. 90 Points Robert Parker

2011 The Prisoner Napa Valley \$40

The wine has a dense red and black hue that is framed in vibrant crimson. Aromas of Bing cherry, espresso, roasted fig and vanillin oak accents are persistent. The entry is powerful and generous supported with lively acidity while flavors of ripe raspberry, pomegranate and wild berry fruit linger harmoniously. Soft, integrated tannin chains allow the wine to be approachable now and provides for a pleasant finish. 51% Zinfandel 19% Cabernet Sauvignon 15% Syrah 12% Petite Sirah 2% Charbono 1% Grenache

2010 Stag's Leap Petite Sirah Napa Valley \$38

The Classic Petite Sirah! About Petite Sirah: Petite Sirah is a variety with many fans among consumers. Originally cultivated and labeled as Petite Sirah only in California, its origin was unknown and identification uncertain and could only be speculated upon, until late in 2003.

Historically, the majority of vineyards plantings identified as Petite Sirah were actually mixed varieties of a dozen or more distinct types, but often including grapes with confusingly similar characteristics, such as Durif, Peloursin, and Syrah.

Just over 3,200 acres of grapes identified as petite sirah were planted in California as of year 2000. Although only a portion of these vineyards have been surveyed, recent DNA evidence from research led by Dr. Carole Meredith at the University of California at Davis has confirmed most plantings to be the same grape as durif. About 10% however, may be either peloursin or béclan, which, observed in the field, are practically indistinguishable from durif, even by expert ampelographers.

It was long theorized this was the case, that petite sirah was the same as the lackluster French variety known as durif, a cross of peloursin, yet another unremarkable variety, with the true syrah. A French nurseryman, Dr. François Durif, propagated the grape trying for resistance to powdery mildew and named it after himself, in the 1870s. The inability of durif to produce distinguished, high quality wines in France effectively nullified the value of its mildew-free attribute, especially since the grape's compact clusters left this variety particularly susceptible to bunch rot.

Thank you,

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