



MADRÓNA

El Tinto Lot 38

El Tinto

Within the wine world of sustainability, every winery produces a “Table Wine.” Although not necessarily the most prestigious of products in most consumers eyes, table wines are a necessary part of producing quality wine. In all honesty, when we blend our Zinfandel or Cabernet Sauvignon or any varietal wine, we invariably end up with a barrel here and a barrel there that don’t quite fit into the blend. Over a year’s time, we collect these components (all quality wines) and blend them together to make a base wine with structure. The challenge is now to balance this wine, both texturally as well as with youthful fruitiness. Surprisingly, our El Tinto requires the most time and effort of any of our wines to blend perfectly. The result, however, gives us a wine often more impressive than many other wineries’ varietals.

Lot 38

This full-bodied El Tinto is quite possibly the best El Tinto to date. For one, the characters are clean and fresh with such a high percentage of the 2017 vintage. Zinfandel and Barbera make up the base of this wine (75+%), as the fruit component of the blend. But with 26 different varieties blended together in this wine, the Lot 38 is the most complex blend we’ve ever made. The nose is filled with a host of different characters...blackberry, cherry, walnuts, sage spice, herbal notes and a hint of vanilla. That kind of complexity is sometimes hard to find in varietal wines, but the essence of this El Tinto. The palate is rich yet structured with just enough tannin to balance out the best lamb burger out there. Dark cherry is the heart of the palate, but there’s far more going on than the first sip can fully appreciate. The next sip is herbal, then spicy, then fruity again. Ultimately, the lot 38 is just going to blossom with a bit of time, but enjoy it now too as it’s tasting great!

Suggested Food Pairings

Think the perfect burger, a hearty pasta, mushrooms and just a glass by itself. It’s all good!

Facts

Appellation: El Dorado

Estate Grown

Blend: 56.3% Zinfandel, 19.4% Barbera, 5.5% Malbec, 4.4% Merlot, 2.8% Cabernet Franc, 2.1% Nebbiolo, 1.8% Yellow Muscat, 1.3% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1.1% Chardonnay, 0.9% Chenin Blanc, 0.7% Touriga Nacional, 0.5% Riesling, 0.5% Petit Verdot, and 13 more varieties making up the last little bit

Vintage: 71% 2017, 26% 2016, 2% 2015, (and then a mixture of vintages for the last 1%)

Bottled: November 7, 2018

Alcohol: 14.1%, pH: 3.60, TA: 0.59 g/100ml

Production: 1246 cases