



MADROÑA

El Tinto Lot 37

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 37

With over 10 years of making El Tinto, it’s rather audacious to use comparative superlatives. But alas, I think the Lot 37 “vintage” of El Tinto is the boldest, densest, and richest El Tinto we’ve produced yet. The nose itself is a wonderful cornucopia of fruit, starting with a foundation of dark berry essence. Hints of raspberry and blueberry dance around while apricot and peach lift the characters even higher. And sitting up there on the top is a sweet chocolate aroma with notes of hard candy and clove spice. The palate is rounded and fruity on the entry with dark cherry and boysenberry. But then the chocolate spice weaves in throughout the mid-palate, framing a sultry and seductive finish of dark berry fruit once again. There are enough lingering youthful tannins to keep this wine in balance while still embracing all the characters of this enticing blend. Enjoy!

Suggested Food Pairings

OK, this wine is great with pastas, but truly it is geared towards cuts of beef or lamb (and sweet bbq sauces too). We’re having it with lamb burgers tonight, and I couldn’t ask for more!

Facts

Appellation: El Dorado

Estate Grown

Blend: 37.2% Zinfandel, 27.9% Barbera, 6.1% Malbec, 5.0% Merlot, 3.0% Syrah, 2.8% Riesling, 2.5% Touriga Nacional, 2.2% Chardonnay, 2.0% Petit Verdot, 1.9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1.7% Nebbiolo, 1.6% Tinta Cao, 1.3% Cabernet Franc, 1.1% Alvarelhao, 0.9% Grenache, 0.9% Pinot Noir, and 9 more varieties making up the last little bit

Vintage: 40% 2016, 26% 2015, 18% 2014, 15% 2013 (and then a mixture of vintages for the last 1%)

Bottled: December 13, 2017

Alcohol: 14.6%, pH: 3.72, TA: 0.62 g/100ml

Production: 1229 cases