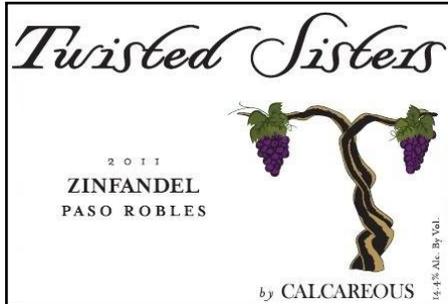


# Twisted Sisters



**Variety:** Zinfandel

**Vintage:** 2011

**Appellation:** Paso Robles

**Production:** 790 Cases

## **Tasting Notes**

The beautiful dark ruby color gives evidence of a dense yet lively wine. The nose is an intriguing blend of tart Bing cherry and rich boysenberry pie aromas. The mouth feel continues this trend of opposites with wonderful acid balancing full bodied flavors of blackberry, licorice and pepper. The finish is rich yet clean, offering a hint of American oak vanilla.

## **Growing Season**

2011 was a cool vintage for Paso Robles. Luckily the rain was late in arriving and the Zinfandel was allowed to hang on the vine until properly ripe. This did not happen until late November. This rare combination allowed for the production of fully ripe Zinfandel at a much lower alcohol level than is typical for Westside Paso Robles.

## **Vineyards**

The Zinfandel for 2011 came from our Kate's Vineyard on Kiler Canyon Road. Only ½ mile from our estate vineyards, the soil characteristics are very similar. The overall temperature though is a bit lower. This prevents the notoriously fast growing zin vines from being too vigorous. This allows us to produce low yields and long hang time for zin. Fruit from this vineyard is usually the last fruit we pick each year, even later than our estate Cabernet Sauvignon.

## **Winemaker Notes**

The zinfandel used for the 2011 Twisted Sisters came from 2 different picking dates, November 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. This allows for picking fruit based on different preferred characteristics. The early pick is based on the presence of lively acid, while the second pick supplies the weight and deep color one wants in a proper zin. Each pick was fermented in two separate 2-ton open top stainless tanks with thrice daily punch downs. After pressing, the three wines were blended together and aged for 16 months in American oak barrels, 30% of which was new.

## **Technical Notes**

Alcohol: 14.4%

Brix: 25.3

pH: 3.37

TA: 6.72g/L