

DAOU

Estate Collection Arinarnoa

2023

Introducing the inaugural vintage of our estate-grown Arinarnoa, a rare yet promising Bordeaux variety planted by Chief Winemaker Daniel Daou.

Arinarnoa is an exciting grape created in 1956 as a cross between Cabernet Sauvignon and Tannat. When Arinarnoa was finally added to the list of approved Bordeaux varieties in 2020, Daniel swiftly planted nearly 10 acres to advance DAOU's founding passion for Bordeaux-style wines grown in the Adelaida District of Paso Robles. The result is a uniquely expressive wine with deep color, exuberant aromas, and a bold yet refined structure.

Wine Profile

Our inaugural release of Arinarnoa announces itself with dark, concentrated hues in the glass. The nose presents fruit-forward aromas of blackberry, dark cherry, boysenberry and blueberry pie with notes of cedar, tobacco, vanilla, fig, leather and mint leaf. Rounded textures flood the palate with blueberry, cranberry, raspberry, plum and dark chocolate. Accents of bay leaf, espresso, baking spices and cigar box join flashy tannins and fresh acidity on a broad, voluminous finish.

The Vintage

The 2023 growing season was preceded by ample winter rainfall that ultimately exceeded 30 total inches on DAOU Mountain. The long winter and abundant precipitation led to a late bud break followed by moderate summer temperatures, with only three days exceeding 100 degrees on DAOU Mountain. These conditions allowed for a long hang time, with harvest starting a few weeks later than average. Finally, October brought a series of warm days that allowed for a perfect alignment of physiological and phenolic ripeness. Overall, the temperature pattern was similar to Bordeaux, but without any rain during the harvest months. The resulting 2023 vintage combines freshness and natural acidity with optimal flavor development and phenolic maturity.

The Estate

Hailed decades earlier as a "jewel of ecological elements" by legendary winemaker André Tchelistcheff, DAOU Mountain was rediscovered by brothers Georges and Daniel Daou in 2007. Their quest for a sublime terroir ended here, on steep slopes that ascend to an elevation of 2,200 feet, all blessed with the type of calcareous clay soil found in the greatest appellations. DAOU Estate Collection wines have since grown to include our most treasured vineyard blocks, earning worldwide critical acclaim and redefining what is possible from Paso Robles.



Aging

21 months in 80%
new French oak

Alcohol %

15.2%

Varietal

100% Arinarnoa

Soil Profile

Calcareous clay and limestone

AVA

Adelaida District, Paso Robles