

# RIDGE 2023

## PASO ROBLES

### ZINFANDEL

100% ZINFANDEL PASO ROBLES BENITO DUSI RANCH  
14.9% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

#### HISTORY

Benito Dusi's Ranch is the only zinfandel vineyard that Ridge sources from within the Central Coast Viticultural Area. The 1967 vintage was our first wine from the Dusi Ranch. It was planted to zinfandel in 1922 which is unusual because Prohibition had started two years earlier. Purchased by Sylvester and Catarina Dusi in 1924, the property has been farmed since the 1940s by their son Benito, the owner. Benito passed away in 2019, leaving the care of the vineyard to his nephew, Mike.

**FIRST RIDGE PASO ROBLES:** 1967

#### VINTAGE

**Rainfall:** 64 inches (above normal)

**Bloom:** End of June

**Weather:** Late and prolonged harvest due to consistently cool weather throughout the growing season.

**Harvest Dates:** 2 - 12 October

**Grapes:** Average Brix 25.5°

#### WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

**Fermentation:** 100% natural primary and secondary fermentation.

**Barrels:** 100% air-dried American oak (15% new oak, 10% one-year-old, 75% four- and five-year-old).

**Aging:** Twelve months in barrel

Benito Dusi Vineyard grapes, hand-harvested; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush, 136 ppm over the course of aging). Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



**RIDGE**  
VINEYARDS

408.867.3233 [www.ridgewine.com](http://www.ridgewine.com)  
Exceptional single-vineyard wines since 1962.

*2023 Zinfandel, Paso Robles, bottled 12/24*  
Since 1967, and our first zinfandel from the Dusi Ranch, it is typically the first vineyard picked, a harbinger that harvest has begun. In 2023, however, despite warm spring weather, cooler summer temperatures persisted through September, resulting in one of the latest harvests here in the last 40 years. This cool weather during ripening did help retain acidity. Fruit forward and sumptuous, this exemplary zinfandel is best enjoyed on release and over the next five years.

JO (11/24)



#### SITE

**Benito Dusi's Vineyard** is located three miles south of Paso Robles on the east side of Highway 101, within the Templeton Gap District.

**Soils:** Rocky and gravelly, with areas of light soil.

**Age of Vines:** Zinfandel, 25 acres, planted in 1922.

**Training:** Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned.

**Yields:** 3 tons per acre

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