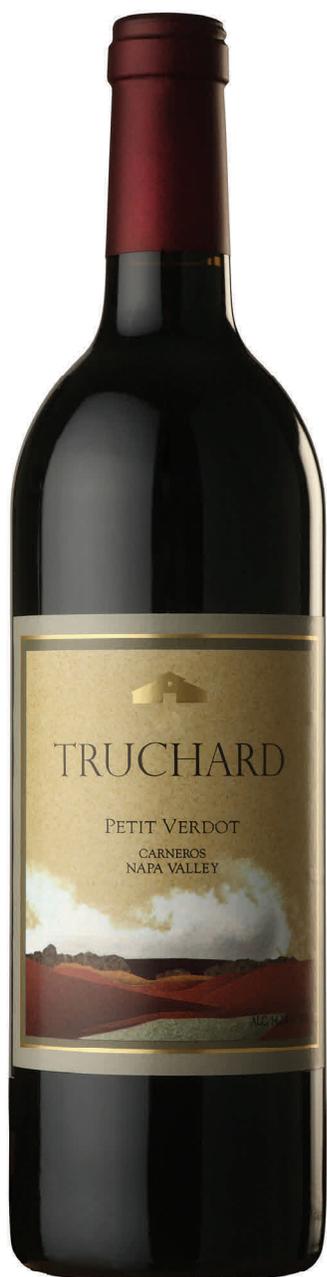




Truchard Vineyards

2009 Petit Verdot



Vintage: A dry spring allowed for good berry set and an average crop. Normal summer conditions slowly brought the grapes to maturity. Record rains in mid-October forced vintners to quickly pick the ripe fruit that was still in the field. Despite a frantic finish, the 2009 vintage produced fruity wines with intense flavors, great texture, and beautiful balance.

Vineyard: Petit Verdot is considered one of the five “Bordeaux” varieties. This thick-skinned, late ripening grape produces a very dark, tannic, and fragrant wine. It has traditionally been used as a blender (to add color and structure) in Bordeaux wines, primarily in the southern Médoc. In 2000, one acre of Petit Verdot was planted in an isolated valley on the Truchard Estate Vineyard. The vines grow in a light sandstone soil on a steep hillside. In the cooler Carneros climate these grapes ripen slowly, allowing for maximum flavor development. The resulting wine is dark purple, with floral aromas, and an intense fruity flavor.

Harvest: October 29 • 24.3 °Brix • 3.55 pH • 6.5 g/L TA

Winemaking: All of the fruit was gently destemmed and crushed into open top fermenters, then inoculated with Pasteur Red yeast. The fermentation was punched down twice daily, with the temperature peaking at 90° F. The wine was pressed after 14 days of maceration and aged for 20 months in French oak barrels (40% new). Rackings occurred every 4 months until bottling in August of 2011. This wine is drinkable now, but has the structure and intensity to evolve over the next 7 – 10 years.

Wine Analysis: 13.9% alcohol • 3.61 pH • 6.1 g/L TA

Tasting Notes: A pretty nose of violets, cranberry, and red currants; with hints of cedar and vanilla. The mouth is layered with bright flavors of plum, black cherry, and cassis. Round tannins fill out the palate and provide a long finish of fruit and spice.

Release Date: March 1, 2013

Cases Produced: 121 cases