

WHITEHALL  
LANE

# 2021 PETIT VERDOT

## Fawn Park Vineyard

### St. Helena

## TASTING NOTES

This Petit Verdot is like experiencing the dark side—with concentrated, full-bodied flavors. It is extraordinarily balanced with aromas of rich boysenberry, mixed berry compote, anise, strawberries, cocoa dust and an almost sanguine touch to it. Its palate exudes flavors of dried black cherries, red currants, earth, licorice, dark chocolate and toasted walnuts. Its powerful chalky tannin mouthfeel truly lets you know this is Petit Verdot. This wine will be enjoyable now but will continue to evolve through 2034—and perhaps beyond.

## WINEMAKING

The Fawn Park Vineyard is located on the eastern slope of Napa Valley in the St. Helena Appellation. The Leonardini Family purchased the 18-acre vineyard in 2004 and almost immediately planted a 2.4-acre block of Petit Verdot grapes in the uppermost corner of the property where it receives full daytime sunlight and drains beautifully. Upon hand harvesting, our Petit Verdot and Cabernet Sauvignon was hand sorted, carefully destemmed and sent to tank for a whole berry fermentation. The fermentation temperature never went above 82°F, which allowed for a warm extraction from the skins. After fermentation and pressing, the wine went to 45% new French oak and 55% neutral oak barrels, aging for 20 months. Upon assemblage (blending), a touch of the Cabernet Sauvignon from the Fawn Park Vineyard blended perfectly with the Petit Verdot. This wine was unfinned and unfiltered.

## VINTAGE

The 2021 vintage was considered a drought year, which has typically proven to be excellent quality for wines. The season started off with bud break in early March, leading to a Spring that allowed for a perfect flowering and set for the grape clusters. Summer was also quite warm and long, leading into an early Autumn harvest season. The drought conditions led to lower yields in the vineyard, which gave a perfect concentration for juice versus skin ratio. The consistent summer weather encouraged our Petit Verdot and Cabernet Sauvignon to ripen in late September into October to finish the harvest season.



**Winemaker:** Jason Moulton

**Appellation:** St. Helena, Napa Valley

**Composition:** 99% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Alcohol:** 14.7%

