



2022 Royal Punishers

Napa Valley Petite Sirah

— R O B E R T —
BIALE

V I N E Y A R D S

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Petite Sirah was the most commonly planted grape in Napa Valley for nearly a century and now we are witnessing a resurgence and new appreciation for this historic hero variety!

Known for its dark color, firm structure, and deep blue and black fruit flavors, it is perfectly suited to Napa Valley's moderate and dry growing season. Petite Sirah was also a favorite grape among winemakers looking to pump up underpowered wines in need of deep fruit, color, and structure. Its natural versatility made it a great blending component to all red varieties including Zinfandel, and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Vintage Notes: The rainy season started off hopefully with several storms bringing much needed precipitation at the end of 2021. Dry conditions, however, returned in January with minimal rainfall through budbreak in mid-March. Cooler, breezy days during flowering in May caused minor shatter in some early flowering blocks, naturally limiting yield. In June a well-timed ½ inch of rain provided the vines with a much-needed drink. Idyllic growing and ripening conditions persisted through the summer. Moderate heat in the middle of August jump started an early harvest. Picking accelerated ahead of a five-day heat spike that began the first week of September, nearly driving harvest to completion. Harvest at Biale concluded exactly a month after it began, just before an early autumn rain. Concentrated and dense with delicate acidity, the 2022 vintage delivered stunning quality across the board.

Harvest Dates: August 26th to September 16th

Winemaking: Our winemaking begins in the vineyard with meticulous attention to detail and close monitoring by Bob Biale and winemaker David Natali. Fruit is hand-harvested, sorted in the field, and sorted again at the winery. Destemmed, the grapes are then fermented in open top tanks with punch downs gently carried out two to three times per day. Pressed, the wine undergoes malolactic fermentation in 100% French oak barrels, of which 35% is new. Aged for 17 months in barrel.

Alcohol: 14.8%

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Rich aromatics of black plum, mocha, tobacco leaf, dried fig, and blackberry on the nose. Round and supple on the palate with notes of nutmeg, cassis, clove, and leather on the palate. Elegant, fine-grained tannins frame this wonderfully complex Napa Valley Petite Sirah.