



LONE MADRONE

About Lone Madrone

Established in 1996 by winemaker Neil Collins and his sister Jackie Meisinger, Lone Madrone specializes in small-production single varietals and unique blends.

Neil's old-world winemaking style, includes using native yeast fermentation and neutral oak to accentuate the wines' natural beauty. The intensity and complex character of Lone Madrone wines are driven by the high quality, Westside Paso Robles fruit they are sourced from; many organically grown, head-pruned, and dry-farmed. The focus is simple: wines made from unique and distinctive vineyards, almost exclusively on the west side of Paso Robles, this area being Neil's backyard. It is important to Neil that he enjoy and respect the people who farm the grapes, and that are currently, or have the intention of, using organic farming techniques. The intent is to have the wines be unique because of where they were grown. To this end, we use a lot of dry farmed fruit.

THE WINES:

2008 LA MEZCLA (80% Grenache Blanc 20% Alberino)
450 cases produced

Both of these varietals were grown by Don and Sandra Dawson on their Dawson Creek Vineyard situated in Templeton's El Pomar region, and heavily influenced by the Templeton Gap bringing in cool ocean air. Almost completely stainless steel fermented partial malolactic, it is a crisp yet rich expression of these grapes. As with all of my wines it is a native yeast fermentation. This wine is often a surprise to those who still question Paso as a credible white wine region.

2006 POINTS WEST (100% Roussanne)
265 cases produced

This wine is from three vineyards in the hills of West Paso Robles.

James Berry Vineyards

This vineyard is well known now because of Justin's Saxum wines, located on Las Tablas Willow Creek Road. This vineyard produces a rich Roussanne though not as mineral, it has a very intriguing lemon peel note to it, long and plush.

Booker Vineyard

Eric Jensen owns and farms this vineyard and is starting to get some acclaim for his wines. This is a brutal site on the top of a hill where the Roussanne struggles. It is heavy in fractured limestone with very shallow to non-existent soil. The resulting wine is indeed lean and mineral. In my opinion this is a great expression of the grape. And Eric is a blast.

Zajac Vineyard

There is only about 10% of this in the Points West and it will not be in again. The Roussanne from Zajac was lean and bright with great acidity and surprisingly low alcohol.

All native yeasts, all natural malo, and mostly neutral barrels with about 10% new Russian oak. It was aged on its lees for 10 months before bottling. Roussanne is a difficult grow and a stubborn, slow ferment but you get what you pay for, be it with money or sweat. This wine gets better and better and will continue to age well I think.

2006 Bailey Ranch (100% Zinfandel)

400 cases produced

Owned and farmed by Mr. David Bailey, another farmer who grew up tending dry farmed walnuts and grapes. This is Mr. Bailey's own vineyard grown on the family ranch on Peachy Canyon Road. All Zin, dry farmed, head trained, and certified organic. Yes, all the good stuff! Mr. Bailey has the reputation as one of the area's best dry farmers. He is humble and a whole lot of fun. Open top fermented, pressed prior to dryness, and straight to barrel to finish, where it rested comfortably on its lees for about 18 months before bottling. This wine dispels the over ripe reputation of Paso Zin.

2006 Old Hat (73% Zinfandel 27% Petite Sirah)

200 cases produced

These grapes are farmed in the Adelaida region of West Paso Robles, by David Osgood. David has been farming the dry farmed grapes and walnuts of our area for a long time, but this is different, this is his own Vineyard. Limestone hills, head trained, dry farmed and organically farmed. This is only a young vineyard but it shows great "terroir" already. Year to year it is clearly Osgood! Open top fermented pressed prior to dryness into stainless for the natives to finish their work, then to mostly neutral barrels with a touch of new 4-year air-dried American wood to finish malo. Aged as a blend for 18 months on lees prior to bottling. Named for David's ever-present oil soaked cowboy hat. The 2006 Old Hat has a rich, complex bouquet of spice, vanilla, currants with a hints of white pepper cherry and tobacco. The velvety, balanced palate bursts with fruit & spice and finishes ever so long. This classic Paso Robles blend of Zinfandel and Petite Sirah (78%-22%) hails from the dry-farmed, organic, head-pruned vineyards of David Osgood.

2006 Syrah.

112 cases produced

The Syrah is from the Glenrose Vineyards owned and operated by Don Rose and named for his father, Glen. Glenrose is situated on Peachy Canyon Road. Don literally carved this vineyard out of a solid limestone hillside and is truly remarkable. This has got to be regarded as one of Paso Robles very best. This Syrah is big, bold, and balanced, a great example of the power of limestone soils. Open top fermented with the natives, punch downs two or 3 times daily by whomever I can fool into believing it is a romantic process! Pressed prior to dryness finishing primary and malo in barrel, about 40% new Hungarian oak. The Glenrose fruit shows a vibrancy we do not see in other vineyards and it is unique and exceptional!

2005 Tannat.

200 cases produced

Another wine made from the very precipice that is the Glenrose Vineyard. This is the second planting of Tannat in Paso Robles, Tablas Creek being the first and the source of the vine stock. Open top fermented with three daily punch downs pressed prior to dryness straight to neutral French and American barrels. Here the Tannat finishes its ferments and ages on lees for about 18 months before bottling.

We fine and filter our wines only when it is necessary to ensure integrity of the wine on its travels in bottle, or if we feel the wine will be improved by the process. Either is quite rare at Lone Madrone.