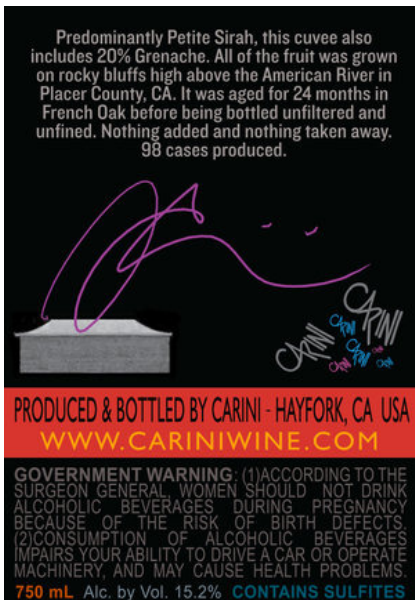


## 2013 Petite Sirah "Walled Vineyard" Sierra Foothills

This is a first for us. Varietal Petite that is. Originally planned to be a blending wine but we found ourselves wanting to drink it all by itself every time, so... that's how we bottled it...almost. 80% Petite Sirah and 20% Grenache. It comes from a small block of the Walled Vineyard that is planted on very rocky, granitic soils, high above the American River. This must be exactly what these vines love because the wine is just wow. This is what I think Petite is supposed to taste like. Shawnee agrees with me.



Well this is Petite Sirah, and as you may have guessed it is dark! Black/ purple, inky. This wine is a big boy, rich with supple texture, dark fruit, and gripping tannins that integrate as it sits in the glass. The bright acidity is initially almost obstructed by the scale of everything else; something I don't know if I've experienced before? The nose is stuffed with dark cherry and blackberry jam with hints of molasses and maybe black tea. In the mouth it continues with the same fruit and deeper notes of vanilla, white pepper and black licorice. This is a big boy that in some ways reminds me of our 2002 Kenefick Merlot. I think its the high level of extract combined with the killer natural acidity. This thing evolves for days, maybe a week after the bottle is opened. Not to be missed in my opinion.

CARINI