



Fred's (Peterson) Vintaged View

In 1983, when we began planting the Bradford Mountain Vineyard, we sourced Merlot and Cabernet Franc budwood from Newton Vineyard in the Napa Valley. My friend John Kongsgaard was winemaker/manager of Newton Vineyards at the time. He had made available to us their heritage Cabernet Franc and Merlot selections planted by Ric Foreman, a founder and the original winemaker at Newton Vineyards.

When I arrived to make the cuttings, John mentioned that we might want to make some cuttings from his Petit Verdot block. John's take on Petit Verdot was that it was an odd variety to grow, an interesting wine to make and always a great addition to their Bordeaux blends. We cut enough budwood to graft half of an acre onto rootstocks we had planted in the spring.

After planting this small block, I learned that this selection could be traced back to the Jackson Field Station in the Sierra Nevada foothills. This demonstration vineyard was planted in the 1880's by Henry Hilgaard, the founding professor of the University of California's Viticulture and Enology Department.

While always an important part of some of our great Cabernet Sauvignon and Agraria blends, we never thought it would stand alone as a varietal bottling until the 2010 vintage, when Jamie put together a blend that showcases the *sauvage* qualities of Petit Verdot, as well as the Bradford Mountain terroir.

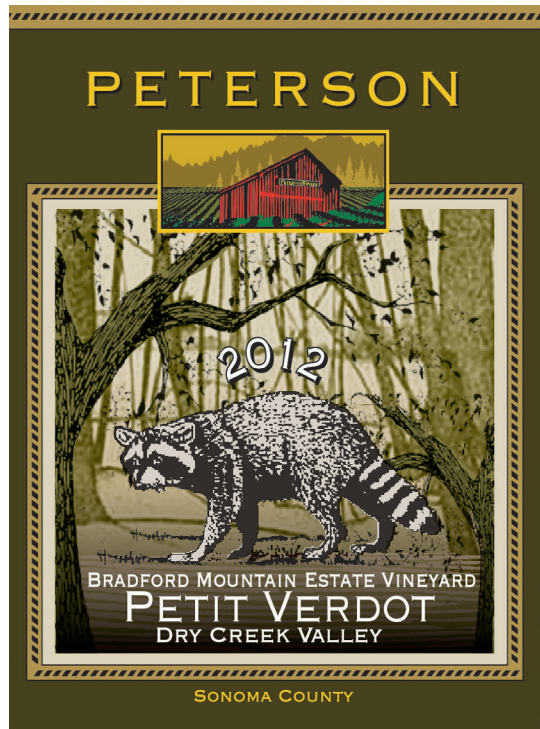
The 2012 vintage was the a perfect growing season to fully ripen Petit Verdot, providing all the classic characteristics of this grape. It deserves to be appreciated as a single varietal.

Tasting Notes

The tempting and layered aromas reveal the solid structure and fabulous flavors that follow. The nose offers smoke, tobacco, leather and earth tones mingled with ripe blackberry and blueberry with traces of violet. Supple tannins and bright acidity punctuate the velvety smooth mouthfeel. Juicy black plum and dark berries merge with creamy oak, coffee and bittersweet chocolate as they caress the palate. Hints of coconut, cigar box, black pepper, eucalyptus and floral notes add to the complexity and depth of the wine.

This is a wine that begs to be paired with wild game, aged Gouda or a balsamic-marinated hanger steak.

2012 PETIT VERDOT BRADFORD MOUNTAIN ESTATE VINEYARD DRY CREEK VALLEY



Technical Data

Composition: 100% Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard

<u>Varietal Breakdown</u>	<u>Harvest Dates</u>
75% Petit Verdot	Sept. 29
13% Cabernet Franc	Oct. 10
6% Merlot	Sept. 13
6% Malbec	Oct. 10

Appellation:	Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County
Alcohol:	13.7%
pH:	3.72
TA:	0.68 g/100ml
Barrel Aging:	21 months
Cooperage:	75% new French oak barrels, 25% 2-year-old French oak barrels
Bottling Date:	June 18, 2014 (unfined and unfiltered)
Production:	200 cases (750ml bottles)
Release Date:	January 2015