

# 2020 LOT 38 - SUISUN VALLEY DESSERT WINE

## BRAND STORY

Tolenas Winery was built on a foundation of family—with a passion for this land that has abundantly provided for generations of California winemakers. Our winemaking philosophy centers the vineyard and fruits as the focus, abstaining from disturbing the vines with chemicals or unnecessary additives. Our products reflect a commitment to both protecting the land and preserving the integrity of our wines. While making wines like this is risky, we wouldn't have it any other way.

## VINEYARD INFO / REGION

Our grapes are grown on the slopes of the original Rancho Tolenas, the Mexican Land Grant spanning Napa and Solano Counties. The name, Lot 38 comes from our discovery that our estate property in the Upper Valley of Suisun Valley is on Lot 38 of Rancho Tolenas. Located just east over the Vaca mountains from Napa Valley, the Suisun Valley is nicely situated to get both coastal breezes and plenty of direct sunshine. Our Zinfandel-based dessert wine not only showcases the versatility of the grape itself but also how the AVA delivers on complex flavors and classic varietals.

## WINEMAKING / VITICULTURE

The best way to think of this early release port is a “Nouveau” of Port. This dessert wine is anything but traditional. It was not aged in oak or stored for an extended period of time and it is bursting with freshness. It was fermented slow and cool to bring out all the lovely red fruit characters of our Estate, Hillside, Dry Farmed, Zinfandel Vines. These vines are young and this was their first harvest; young vines naturally have lots of fruit character. and this dessert wine showcases it. The heat spell at the end of 2020 spiked the sugar levels up on our fruit, but the acidity was still intact. This combination of high sugar and intact acidity allowed us to make a very special and fresh tasting dessert wine. Unique to this vintage, it expresses the dessert qualities of blackberry or raspberry pie filling. This dessert wine is a perfect ending to a heavy holiday meal. It is sure to surprise and delight, and is truly something special from a crazy 2020 year!

## TASTING NOTES

This port is bursting youthfully with bright red fruit notes. You'll smell raspberry, blackberry, strawberry, and cherry. Notes of acidity balance the lovely surprise of sweetness and body. It pairs well with orange sugar cookies or is delicious drizzled over vanilla ice cream with a cookie crumble topping. This is not your papa's aged port.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

AVA: Suisun Valley  
Abv: 19%  
Volume: 375 mL

Varietals: 100% Zinfandel  
TA: 8.1, PH: 3.54  
Price: \$35.00

