



Lucia

by PISONI

Lucia is a small collection of wines crafted by the Pisoni family from the estate-farmed Pisoni, Garys' and Soberanes Vineyards.

2022 SYRAH SUSAN'S HILL

the VINTAGE

The 2022 vintage proved to be a year that reinforced the importance of knowing your producer. Overall, the vintage was dry and early, which resulted in beautifully fragrant and concentrated wines—but it was imperative that one acted on quick harvest decisions before an oncoming September heat wave. Rainfall was low and the California drought continued through this year. Five and a half of the seven total inches received this season fell in the month of December. This means much less rain would fall over the growing season, further stressing the vines. A warmer than average February and March began to awaken the vines earlier than expected. May brought on flowering, and with that came a stretch of cooler temperatures that slowed the growth of the vines and proved essential for tannin and color development. As a mild summer set in, smaller than average canopies and a lower-yielding crop level became apparent. A cool August allowed for phenolic development of each berry while sugar accumulation remained very slow. As September began the forecast of hotter weather materialized. All of California was facing an intense heat wave that reminded us of the 2017 and 2004 vintages. Using past vintages as a guide and wanting to harvest before the heat waves, we made longer passes through the vineyard each night to ensure all blocks were harvested at our desired moments. This approach paid off and the 2022 vintage has higher than average concentration with vibrant aromatics.

the VINEYARD

Susan's Hill, named for Gary's sister Susan, is a special block within Pisoni Vineyards. Planted in 2001, this block sits on a rocky outcrop and crowns one of the vineyard's highest ridges. Its peak is exposed to the elements and buffeted by heavy winds. The coarse, rocky soils ensure that the vines are extremely stressed, resulting in wines that are dark in color and very intense.

the WINEMAKING

The Pisoni Family is committed to raising and hand-crafting exceptional wines. The limited-production Lucia wines are created using classic, gentle and thoughtful winemaking techniques. Hand-picked and sorted grapes are fermented with native yeast and aged in carefully selected French oak barrels. Our state-of-the-art winemaking facility uses gravity flow as part of a custom design conceived to merge the estate vineyards and winery. This affords us complete control of the farming and winemaking process, ensuring consistently superior quality.

TASTING NOTES

If there is a wine that exemplifies mountain-grown vineyards, it is the Susan's Hill Syrah. This block of grapevines is perched on a high ridgetop at Pisoni Vineyards. The 1,300-foot elevation, wind-swept conditions and rugged soil delivers a wine of intense and opaque purple color. The complex aroma is an assembly of muddled black berries, stony minerality and cracked pepper. Elegant notes of violets emit from the glass with additional swirling and air. The palate possesses staggering depth and power, in large part because the minimal yields of one-point-five tons per acre. Seventy five percent whole cluster and native fermentation further capture this site and build complexity. To soften the tannins while maintaining the aromatic intensity, this wine is aged in a large foudre for nearly two years before bottling.

CASES PRODUCED:

120

RELEASE DATE:

Summer 2024

WINEMAKER:

Jeff Pisoni

BARREL AGING:

22 months in Foudre

BARREL ORIGIN:

100% French Oak

WHOLE CLUSTER:

75%

FERMENTATION:

100% Native Yeast