

Paoletti Estates Winery

2012 Nero d'Avola, Calistoga, Napa Valley

Nero d'Avola ("Black of Avola in Italian) is "the most important red wine grape in Sicily and is one of Italy's most significant indigenous varieties." It is named after the town of Avola in the far south of Sicily and its wines are compared to New World Shirazes, with sweet tannins and plum or peppery flavors. "The Black Grape of Avola" appears to have been selected by growers near Avola several hundred years ago. Initially, it was confined to the southern tip of the island but more recently has spread throughout southern Italy, it is also know as the Calabrese.

Vineyard:

The grapes for the Paoletti Nero D'Avola are sourced from our estate vineyard on Tubbs Lane in Calistoga. The deep, well drained soils are dry farmed and provide the Nero d'Avola with a warm climate allowing for later maturity and ripeness. The cuttings for our vineyard were brought directly from Sicily almost 18 years ago and are an exclusive to the Paoletti Estates Winery

Winemaking and Cellar Practices:

The grapes were hand-picked at the peak of ripeness, destemmed, cold soaked, fermented to dryness and gently pressed. The wine was aged in our caves in a combination of 40% new French and 60% neutral French oak barrels. Aged for 18 months, our 2012 vintage is 85% Nero D'Avola and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon

Characteristics:

Bright ripe blackberry, dusty earth, opening up to plum, espresso bean, dark chocolate and soft spices. Well balanced acidity and tannins. Pairs well with wild fennel and sausage pasta, grilled lamb burgers with red onion aioli, and grilled skirt steak with anchovy salmoriglio sauce.

Harvest Date:	October 2012
Harvest Sugar:	24.0 Brix
Total Acidity:	0.59g/100ml
pH:	3.50
Alcohol:	14.2%
RS:	0.30 g/100ml
Oak Age:	18 months
Bottling Date:	May 2014, 112 cases