

2013 Zisola Zisola

Zisola's 2013 Zisola is a very attractive red wine that shows a most promising side to modern Sicilian winemaking. This Nero d'Avola opens to a medium garnet and ruby color and shows a compact but bright and zesty style. Elegant tones of red cherry, dried herb and light spice are integrated and balanced. The effect is compact and tight.

The exciting news from Zisola this year is the introduction of a relatively new white wine called Azisa. In reality, the wine has been produced for a few years, but this is my first tasting. Zisola is the Sicilian property owned by the Mazzei family from Tuscany.

Importer(s):

Palm Bay Imports, 301 Yamato Rd, #1150, Boca Raton, FL 33431, (561) 893-9998

- Monica Lerner (January, 2016)

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2011 Zisola Noto Rosso Doppiozeta

Made from a blend of 80% Nero d'Avola and 20% Syrah, the 2011 Noto Rosso Doppiozeta could best be described as a "super Sicilian" wine. The wine shows thick contours with lush layers of dark fruit, dried cherry, spice and moist chewing tobacco packed tight within. The tannins are soft and polished, but the wine has enough consistency and richness to leave a lasting impression. Delicate tones of smoke and crushed mineral appear as delicate end-notes.

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2012 Zisola Noto Rosso Doppiozeta

The 2012 Noto Rosso Doppiozeta is mostly Nero d'Avola with a smaller part Syrah. Some 150,000 bottles are produced and the fruit is sourced from across the estate's 21 hectares of vine. The wine is muscular and hearty with thick layers of luscious fruit that are enhanced by balanced spice, leather and tobacco. As in past years, Doppiozeta proves to be my favorite wine from the Zisola estate. The combination of those two grapes hits the spot.

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2011 Zisola Effe Emme

The 2011 Effe Emme (technically an IGT Sicilia wine and named as such before the Terre Siciliane appellation was created) is Petit Verdot from limestone-rich soils in southeastern Sicily. This is a very elegant and focused wine that delivers a terrific lineup of dark fruit, spice and back mineral aromas. The overall effect is soothing and convincing, and the tannins add a steady backbone. I hope to see more Petit Verdot from Sicily.

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2012 Zisola Effe Emme

The Mazzei family owns one hectare of Petit Verdot that was planted in 2007. The 2012 Effe Emme (an IGT Terre Sicilian wine) is a pure expression of the grape that offers an exceedingly plump and generous style that underlines the warm growing conditions in Sicily. Some 8,000 bottles are produced. The bouquet is focused and tight with blackberry fruit, exotic spice and crushed granite stone.

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