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Gold Club June 2024

Turley Wine Cellars 2021 Disu Zinfandel Paso Robles, California

About the wine: Unapologetically bold, spice-driven and jammy, Zinfandel (called Primitivo in Italy) found its way to California during the gold rush, and is the darling of California vintners, adapting well to the state's diverse microclimates and landscapes. Founded in 1993, Turley makes forty-seven wines, the vast majority of which are single vineyard Zinfandels and Petite Sirah. By focusing on old vine vineyards in particular, Turley aims to preserve California's unique winemaking culture. The Dusi vineyard was planted by Dante Dusi in 1945 and is farmed by his family to this day.

About the Region: Located halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles on California's Central Coast, there's something to please everyone with 200 wineries, beaches, hiking, cycling, golf, and the iconic Hearst Castle. Wines from Paso Robles are typified by rich, ripe reds based on warm-climate varieties such as Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and the Rhone Valley trio Grenache, Syrah and Mourvedre. The majority are made from these warm-climate varieties, but Pinot Noir and Chardonnay are also found, mostly in the very coolest vineyards of the region.

Tasting Notes: Think of this as your darker, more hedonistic cousin to a traditional Zinfandel, with plenty of fruits that run the full gamut from berry to stone and everything in-between. Supple, juicy and mouthwatering on the palate with a mineral zip. This plush, explosive Zinfandel has a ton going on. There's real old-vine gravitas and texture here. What a gorgeous wine this is. So very juicy!!!! We recommend decanting prior to enjoying (if you are patient!).

Food Pairing: With pedal-to-the-metal monster Zinfandels like this one, choose dishes like rich pastas, hearty pizza, grilled sausages, stick-to-the-ribs stews, and dark red meat or game. Chewy Zinfandel is not friendly with most fish or shellfish as it will overwhelm with its rich flavor, although it can pair nicely with various styles of mature cheese (think funky). There's a bold, rich fruitiness to this wine... think a blueberry compote on smoked brisket... no, we're not kidding!!

