



Monte Volpe



2001 PEPPOLINO

MENDOCINO

Background: Peppolino is one of those wines that offers the winemaker the opportunity and freedom to create a truly unique wine, which is the most expressive form of winemaking. Gently handcrafted from specially selected lots, this blend of three classic central and southern Italian varietals has come together to create a wine of great structure and elegance

Vineyards: This wine was made from 34% Sangiovese, 33% Montepulciano and 33% Negroamaro. All of the grapes used in this blend were grown in the Fox Mountain Vineyard located in the eastern foothills of the Ukiah Valley where there is growing conditions of shallow rock laden soils, southwestern exposure days and cool nights help produce grapes with superb balance, concentration and fruity aromas and flavors. The grapes were hand-harvested at an average of 25.5 degrees brix from October 5th to October 25th.

Winemaking: After crushing the grapes into small open-top stainless steel tanks, the must was cold soaked for 4 days and pumped over and punched down twice daily for 2 weeks during fermentation, before being pressed off into French oak barrels (55% new). After an extended aging period in barrels for 21 months, the wine was egg white fined, rough filtered and bottled on September 29 th 2003.

Winemaker Comments: This is a wine of great structure. Exotic aromas of violet, spices, and notes of black licorice weave throughout the vibrant blackberry fruit and tar character. Firm tannins and velvety middle culminate in a long lasting, harmonious finish that laced with toasty oak. This wine's complexity and depth of flavor will continue to evolve with further bottle aging.

Food Pairing: *Enjoy with grilled steaks, pasta with forest mushroom sauce and lamb chops with rosemary sauce.*

Awards: *Gold Medal and Sweepstakes Winner at Mendocino Wine Growers Wine Competition.*

Specifications:

Blend:	34% Sangiovese, 33% Montepulciano, 33% Negroamaro
Cases Produced:	210
Alcohol:	14.5%
Total Acidity:	.75
pH:	3.44
Residual Sugar:	0.4% (dry)

GRAZIANO FAMILY OF WINES

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