

USA, California: Paso Robles New Releases from 2013 and 2014

JEB DUNNUCK

30th Aug 2016

Paso Robles remains on a qualitative roll with recent vintages and readers really can't go wrong here, especially in 2013 and 2014. I summarized these vintages last year in my annual report on Paso Robles (California's Paso Robles: The Brilliant 2013s), but to recap, both 2013 and 2014 are sensational vintages featuring moderate growing seasons with no real heat spikes or rainfall of which to speak. The 2013s were particularly rich and more of a larger, richer and more of a larger, and these vintages are filled with

As to the latest vintage, 2015 was a challenging vintage and was the fourth drought year in a row. Throughout the Central Coast, growers reported anywhere from a 30-70% reduction in crop. It was a cool, uneven growing season followed by erratic swings in temperature all the way through October. Quality in 2015 will be determined by the sorting of the two vintages.

While Paso Robles has been synonymous with the Rhône movement for over a decade now, it is worth noting the quality of the Bordeaux varieties coming from these limestone hills today. I'm increasingly seeing incredible wines based largely on Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and other Bordeaux varieties from Paso Robles. While it may be hard for readers to believe, trust me when I tell you that these top-quality releases are a match for the best wines from California's North Coast."

to continue to grow.

