



J Dusi Wines: A Family Tradition with a New Perspective

J Dusi Wines channels a century of Paso Robles winemaking heritage into vibrant, terroir-driven pours, crafted by fourth-generation vintner Janell Dusi. From her family's historic estate in the Templeton Gap, Janell sources grapes from vineyards rooted in a legacy begun in the 1920s, when her great-grandfather, Italian immigrant Sylvester Dusi, first planted the land. The site's limestone-rich soils and dramatic temperature swings produce fruit with bold, distinctive flavors—dark berries, spice, and earthy nuance—that shine in J Dusi's acclaimed lineup.

Janell's winemaking melds Italian tradition with modern finesse, elevating Zinfandel as a family cornerstone. Hand-picked and foot-stomped, grapes ferment with minimal intervention, their natural character accented by restrained oak—15-20% new French and American barrels. The Dante Dusi Vineyard Zinfandel delivers lush blackberry, pepper, and vanilla with a silky finish. Among the highly popular offerings, the Pinot Grigio dazzles with crisp citrus, green apple, and floral hints, proving Janell's skill across varietals. The Model M red blend, another fan favorite, fuses Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Petite Sirah into a robust yet smooth sip—ripe plum, cocoa, and subtle spice—crafted for broad appeal.

Janell's portfolio extends to Grenache, Mourvèdre, and the Paper Street Vineyard's "The Narrator," a Rhône blend of dark raspberry and currant, aged 18 months in oak for depth. She also experiments with clay amphorae, lending an earthy twist to select wines. Sustainability is core—cover crops and dry farming, practices from Sylvester's time, enhance grape quality and respect the land.