



## THREE WINE COMPANY OLD VINES MATARO 2018/\$21.99



### DESCRIPTION

Three Wine Company is much more than a business. It is a family winery focused on sustainable growing, coupled with a hands-on wine experience. Winemaker Matt Cline's philosophy is that: the dirt, the micro-climate, and sustainable wine growing (from vineyard to bottle) form the cornerstone of good winemaking, and is in every bottle three produces.

Whether you are a visitor to the tasting room, or the winemaker, Cline, you really get a sense of the intimacy of this business. Visitors are able to see the winemaking process up close and personal, as the facilities are combined. Cline, a 30+ year veteran to the business is still personally sampling each of the vineyards used in their wines, even though he could leave it to an intern or assistant to do. Cline's wife and business partner Erin, is the tasting room General Manager, as well as managing online sales and business. As partners, Matt and Erin collaborate on everything from names and labels to the upcoming varietal productions.

Additionally, three has a passion for preserving and educating on the historic varietals to California, such as Zinfandel, Mataro, and Carignane. In 2014 Cline and an alliance with the City of Oakley and a large group of environmental and historical enthusiasts stood up to the State of California and saved a historic and high-quality vineyard. This vineyard is a wonderful example of sustainable agriculture as well as a relic of growers and winemakers from previous generations, and is found in three's Lucchesi Carignane, SMC, CMZ, the Field Blend (at around 35-40%), and blended in their Zinfandels in small percentages.

### THREE WINE COMPANY OLD VINES MATARO 2018

This Old Vines Mataro is sourced from 100-year-old vines located at the apex of the Suisun Bay outside of the town of Oakley, California, and is farmed by third generation growers.

Their Mataro is grown in a sandy-loam soil that has low organic material resulting in low vigor and low yields. Warm spring weather allowed good fruit set (when flowers turn to berries) increasing the potential crop size significantly. The combination of ancient vines, low vigor soils, and good fruit-set resulted in better-than-expected yields.

The 2018 growing season delivered California vintners and growers across the state another stellar vintage. A cool year with an above average crop size, vineyard sources such as Dell'Antico, Spinelli, Bigelow, and Sandy Lane showcased high quality across the board. A mild winter caused early bud break, followed by protracted bloom and unseasonably cool weather in spring, contributed to a relatively late start to harvest of about two weeks on average.

The Old Vines Mataro fermented at a cool 62°F for the first half of the fermentation after which they let it warm to 72°F towards dryness. This wine is a blend of 85.3% Mataro, 8.3% Petite Sirah, 4.6% Black Malvoisie, and 1.8% Carignane.

## Tasting Notes

### **NOSE:**

Aromas of blueberry, blackberry, and plum with notes of violet, black pepper, herbs, such as and meat.

### **PALATE:**

The 2018 Old Vines Mataro exhibits plenty of fresh herbs and dark fruit with a tantalizing combination of savory spices, tobacco, and berries on the palate.

### **PAIRING:**

Enjoy year round with a variety of dishes such as: grilled salmon, mild and soft cheeses, all types of spicy ethnic foods, and especially with herb encrusted lamb.

### **WINERY WEBSITE:**

[dirt-MATters-2018-Old-Vine-Mataro.pdf \(threwinecompany.com\)](#)

# Clarksburg A.V.A., Central Valley, California



