



Winemaker Profile: Hunt Cellars

DAVID HUNT

by Lisa Pretty

David Hunt is very proud of his wines and his team at Hunt Cellars. He has every reason to be. The majority of his wines have received ratings of 90-95 points and his collection of gold medals are impressive. The multiple 95-point ratings on Hunt Cellar wines such as the Cabernet Sauvignon “Cloud Nine,” the Petite Sirah “Irresistible,” and the Sangiovese “Rhapsody” Reserve clearly demonstrates that the wine judges agree with his palate.

What is really surprising is that David didn't begin life as a vintner. His entrepreneurial nature resulted in the alarm and communication systems becoming standard amenities in large scale developments. The technology led to the wide spread use of smart homes and voicemail platform applications. Finally, after a period of time of working, along with his wife, as a successful real estate developer David eventually decided to turn his focus to something that he had a great passion for – wine. Some



people would be surprised that a man who had lost his vision due to retinitis pigmentosa as an adult would begin a new venture in something as challenging as winemaking. People say it is his heightened sense of taste and smell which helps him create the indelible finish on the wine.

His enhanced senses, his determination to be the best at what ever he does and his focus

on quality are what makes Hunt Cellars' wines so highly acclaimed. David Hunt believes the focus on quality has to start in the vineyard and would attribute a great deal of his wines' success to the estate grown Destiny Vineyards fruit. The Hunt family spent a long time searching for the perfect place for their vineyards prior to purchasing their 550 acres in Paso Robles. The property has multiple terrioris with varying elevations containing soil composites that allow a wide range of grape varietals to not only grow but thrive. To ensure quality, the yields are kept low with the fruit delivering very concentrated flavors.

Hunt Cellars pour their wines daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the tasting room located just off of highway 46 West at 2875 Oakdale Road. With more than two dozen wines rated between 90-95 points their tasting room is a must visit. The hospitality staff is known for making the tasting experience not only fun but also educational. For more information, call (805) 237-1600 or visit www.huntcellars.com.