

Drink What YOU Like

20
Wednesday
Nov 2013

Lodi-licious — Exploring the Wines of Lodi, CA

Situated 100 miles east of San Francisco, about 40 miles south of Sacramento and just west of the Sierra Nevada mountain range is one of the California's most historic and noted wine regions — Lodi. Home to many 4th and 5th generation winegrowing families that played a role in shaping the California wine industry, Lodi is a region rich with wine history and has been a major winegrowing area for over 150 years.

Since many of the smaller, boutique Lodi producers are not readily available at bottleshops in my area I jumped at the chance to participate in a tasting of five reds from notable Lodi producers.

Because of
tonight's Lodi
wines with

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The two California
hours last night and reworked without gas, while the three Zins showed better last night. I resealed each of the wines (each less than half-full) with gas to reopen and taste tomorrow, at which point I may update the tasting notes further.

A few Lodi wine factoids for context:

- The Lodi, CA region is home to over 80 wineries.
- There are over 75 grape varieties used for wine production.
- Zinfandel is the region's most planted variety, followed by Cabernet Sauvignon.
- Unlike many wine and cider regions that suffered during prohibition. Home winemakers took advantage of the purchased grapes from Lodi.
- An estimated 2,000 acres of grapes are unique pre-prohibition varieties.
- Vinifera varieties such as Zinfandel and Tokay appeared in Lodi around the 1880s as more Italian and German immigrants settled in the region.
- Lodi winegrowers and other industry stakeholders worked to establish LodiRules™ in 2005 – California's first 3rd-party certified sustainable winegrowing program. About 25% of the acreage under vine (just over 25,000 acres as of 2012) in the area are LodiRules certified.
- The Lodi, CA American Viticultural Area (AVA) was officially recognized in 1986, and the seven smaller AVAs within Lodi were added in 2005.
- The Lodi AVA has about 100,000 acres of winegrapes, farmed by more than 750 growers.



* Each wine provided as sample.