

# AARONAP CELLARS

## 2022 PETITE PEARL



### Wine Summary:

Just like our winemaker, the Petite Pearl grape hails from the Midwest. Developed by grape whisperer Tom Plocher at his Minnesota vineyard nursery, Petite Pearl represents a huge step forward for winemaking from cold-hardy varieties. Think “Syrah” and you’ll immediately recognize the jammy fruit profile of this unique grape. Our partner grower talked me into trying a batch of this grape in 2018, and I was hooked as soon as the grape lugs were loaded into my pickup. Huge tight bunches of thick-skinned red grapes that gleamed in the afternoon sunshine. At the winery, I was not disappointed with intense aromas during crushing...the rest is history!

### Tasting Notes:

Intense aromas of fresh blackberry, plum, raspberry fruit. The palate is enhanced by light black pepper and mocha flavors that linger on the tongue.

**Aging Potential:** Imminently quaffable in 2025-2026, but should age gracefully over the next 3-7 years.

**Food Pairing Suggestions:** BBQ ribs, aged Gouda cheese, roasted duck breast, wood-fired pizza, stuffed mushrooms, black bean chili, or seared tuna.

### Technical Data:

*Varietal Composition:* 100% Petite Pearl

*Appellation:* Massachusetts, Southeastern New England AVA

*Vineyard:* Coastal Vineyard, South Dartmouth, MA

*Aging Protocol:* 100% in stainless steel.

*Alcohol by volume:* 12%    *Residual sugar:* Dry    *Production Volume:* 652 bottles

### Vintage and Production Notes:

In 2022, our South Dartmouth partner vineyard basked in the summer sun on the edge of the drought region that gripped most of Massachusetts west of the Cape Cod. Coastal breezes brought just enough rain for the Petite Pearl grapes to swell with juice and the extended sunshine and warmth encouraged tannin production and cluster ripeness. After hand-picking, the full, tight clusters were destemmed and fermented with RP-15 yeast. After 14 days, the wine was pressed from the skins into a stainless steel tank for malolactic fermentation and subsequent aging.

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