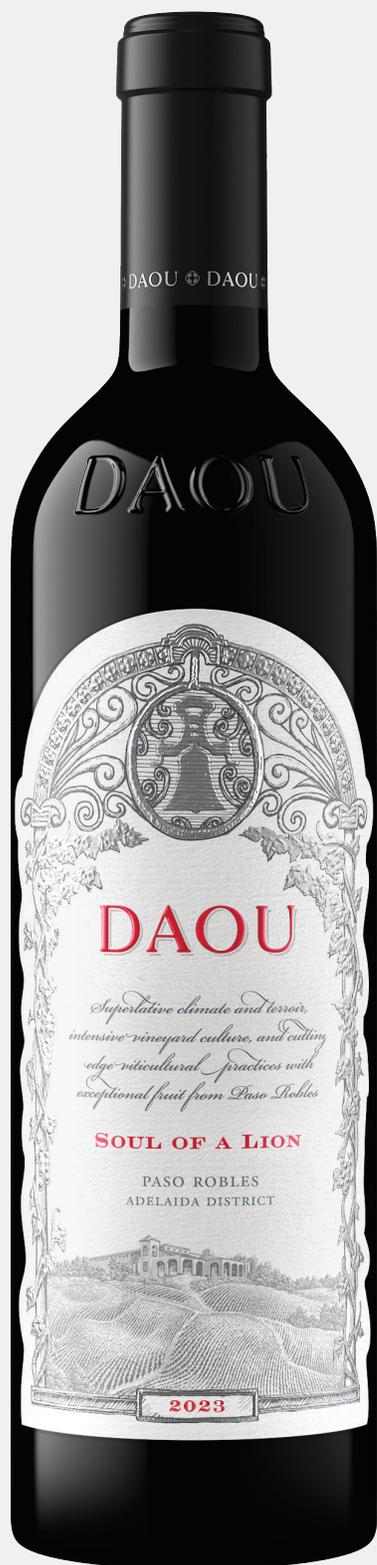


SOUL OF A LION

Cabernet Sauvignon | 2023



Soul of a Lion is a family tribute to Founders Georges and Daniel Daou's father, Joseph. It celebrates his life and the family's journey from Lebanon to France and the United States. Despite the challenges and setbacks they faced, they always came back roaring with the Soul of a Lion.

Wine Profile

Soul of a Lion is the crown jewel of DAOU and an emblem of our quest to produce unsurpassed Cabernet Sauvignon from the terroir of DAOU Mountain. The 2023 vintage displays saturated hues of dark crimson and violet with lavish aromas of blueberry, plum, cherry pie, thyme and vanilla bean. The bouquet is underscored by accents of toasted oak, smoked meat, coconut and crème brûlée, leading to waves of boysenberry, blackberry, chocolate-covered cherry and baking spice on the palate. The mouthfeel is generous, seamless and structured, releasing a cascade of beautifully polished tannins into a deep and stunning finish.

The Vintage

The 2023 growing season was preceded by ample winter rainfall that ultimately exceeded 30 total inches on DAOU Mountain. The long winter and abundant precipitation led to a late bud break followed by moderate summer temperatures, with only three days exceeding 100 degrees on DAOU Mountain. These conditions allowed for a long hang time, with harvest starting a few weeks later than average. Finally, October brought a series of warm days that allowed for a perfect alignment of physiological and phenolic ripeness. Overall, the temperature pattern was similar to Bordeaux, but without any rain during the harvest months. The resulting 2023 vintage combines freshness and natural acidity with optimal flavor development and phenolic maturity.

The Estate

Hailed decades earlier as a "jewel of ecological elements" by legendary winemaker André Tchelistcheff, DAOU Mountain was rediscovered by brothers Georges and Daniel Daou in 2007. Their quest for a sublime terroir ended here, on steep slopes that ascend to an elevation of 2,200 feet, all blessed with the type of calcareous clay soil found in the greatest appellations. Driven by the brothers' passion for world-class, accessible wine, and their continuous innovation and artistry, the Adelaida District would soon become the world's newest benchmark for Cabernet Sauvignon and Bordeaux varieties.

<u>Aging</u>	<u>Alcohol %</u>	<u>Varietals</u>	<u>Soil Profile</u>	<u>AVA</u>
22 months in 100% new French oak	15.2%	76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot	Calcareous Clay and Limestone	Adelaida District, Paso Robles

Food Pairings

Grilled Ribeye with Herb Butter & Mushrooms
Roasted Rack of Lamb with Wilted Greens
Kale and White Bean Stew

Aging Recommendations

Ideally Aged for a Minimum of Two Years,
but Capable of Developing Exquisite
Complexity Over 30 Years or More.

DAOU

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