

SCULPTERRA CABERNET SAUVIGNON RESERVE

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN

2019



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon & 10% Petite Sirah
Appellation: Paso Robles
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate
Block: Chivos & Lago De Los Patos
Finished Alcohol: 15.3%
Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.03g/100ml
Total Acid: 0.65 g/100ml
pH: 3.67
Bottling Date: August 19, 2021
Release Date: December 1, 2022
Total Production: 285 Cases

THE VINEYARD

2019 was a remarkable vintage and certainly called for a “Reserve” bottling! Like with previous ‘Reserve’ bottlings this wine contains hearty, robust and intense Cabernet flavors. The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes are exclusive from the “Chivos” block at Frankel Vineyards and Sculpterra Winery. The vine rows are so steep that the fruit must be hand-picked since a picking machine is unable to traverse the dangerous terrain. 2019 saw fair weather throughout the growing season, but above average wind during bloom limited these vines to just 2 tons an acre making for concentrated ripe flavors, a genuine “Reserve” and limited wine. The vineyard soils impart earthy and peppery notes into the wine. Uniquely derived aromas like castellano olive and hints of bell pepper are found in this 12 row vineyards. The vines are cane-pruned on a vertical trellis system. All fruit is derived from the head of the vine making for perfectly uniform berries and taste. Also, our vineyard team pins up the morning side of the canopy to allow for more light and wine flow into the vine.

THE WINEMAKING

The fruit was destemmed, fermented, pressed, racked and aged at Sculpterra Winery. The wine fermented in both stainless steel tanks and 1-ton fermentation bins, dual fermentation allowed us to use selected yeast strains. Right off the press this wine had so much classic Cabernet character, bursting forth with both fruit tones and peppery spice. The wine was aged in exclusively 240L TW Boswell Barrels, of which four of them were new American “Solei” barrels. These thin stave tight grain barrels impart delicate bouquets of vanilla, tobacco and dark chocolate, also imparting a perceived taste of sweetness. One barrel of Petite Sirah was added to the final blend of Cabernet, revealing strong flavors of lavender tea, candied plums and pomegranates. The wine aged gracefully for 18 months in barrel, allowing for micro oxidation and the expression of caramel and butterscotch to develop.

THE TASTE

Sculpterra’s 2019 vintage Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve wine is destined for long aging; displaying firm tannins, a chalky mouthfeel and an intense finish. I love the freshness of fruit when lifted by black olive, and green peppered notes. Spicy and aromatic, this wine is ripe and covers the palate with both peppery and rich dark fruit tones that blend seamlessly together. The tannins are long and extended with each sip, and a strong black-coffee flavor are pronounced on the mid-palate. This wine offers a wealth of herbal intensity and dusty qualities. Overall, baking spices are prominent on the nose and highlight the well-integrated oak. The structure is long and graceful creating a cohesive and full bodied finish. Give this wine a good 10 years of aging before it is at it’s very best!

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker