

# SCULPTERRA 2019 PINOT NOIR

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



## THE FACTS

### Varietal Composition:

100% Pinot Noir

### Clonal Breakdown:

54% Clone 115 & 46% Clone 777

### Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: Escalon & Paul's Forest

Finished Alcohol: 14.2%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.50 g/100ml

Total Acid: 0.66 g/100ml

pH: 3.70

Bottling Date: December 9, 2020

Total Production: 728 Cases

## THE VINEYARD

2019 was unquestionably the best vintage of the decade, and this Pinot Noir is a great example of high-quality grapes paired with smart winemaking. The year started out great, good off-season rains transitioned into a moderate sunny spring followed by a normal to hot summer. The grapes ripened slower than usual, thus developing unique characteristics to this specific vintage. Our soils are rocky and mostly clay-loam in profile, allowing them to hold moisture for prolonged periods of time. The vineyard rows are oriented directly north-south and we pin up the shoots with guide wires that expose the vine's canopy and clusters to the sun and wind flow. The vineyard is planted in our valley floor and collects shade each afternoon by the towering hill to the west. We harvested the bulk of the fruit on the same day, then returned 9 days later to pick an extremely ripe lot of Pinot Noir clone 115, and we were very happy with the results!

## THE WINEMAKING

The grapes were harvested starting at 3:00am in the morning to ensure that the berries would be at their naturally coldest temperature. In total 3 lots were harvested; 2 from clone 115 and 1 from clone 777. The destemmed berries were cold soaked for a full 48 hours before the onset of fermentation. Yeast 3001 was selected to ferment clone 777 in order to stabilize deep color in the juice and enhance its natural varietal characteristics of strawberry and raspberry. Yeast BM45 and Yeast ICV-D254 were chosen to ferment the two lots of clone 115. These yeasts provided structural integrity in textures, harnessing the natural tannins in the skin and increasing the wine's dark berry flavors. Fermentation took 21 days to reach complete dryness, followed by pressing, settling, and eventual racking into barrels for long term aging. No new barrels were used in the aging of this wine, therefore, the fresh fruit aromas are the dominant feature on the palate.

## THE TASTE

Our 2019 all estate grown Pinot Noir is an impressive wine, jam-packed with fresh easy drinking red fruit aromas, subtle bouquets of earthy spice and finishes smooth and plush. Grown on the east-side of Paso Robles in the El Pomar District this ripe Pinot Noir offers more intense fruit flavors while still maintaining charming acidity and classic French style Pinot Noir notes. My favorite flavors of this wine are centered around black cherry, vanilla, wet stone and even a slight hint of cedar smoke. The mid-palate is highlighted by flavors of pomegranate and candied berries. Floral notes, like dried lilac and lavender, meet with its strawberry driven core in the mouth. The tannins are subtle and well-integrated, helping the wine's textures and ensuring that this wine will age for years down the road.

- Paul Frankel (Winemaker)