

SCULPTERRA

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN

2018
CABERNET SAUVIGNON
RESERVE



THE VINEYARD

Sculpterra's "Reserve" Cabernet Sauvignon has returned after a 2-year hiatus, and it is an all-star wine! 2018 was a remarkable vintage for Cabernet and called us into bottling this reserve wine. It's packed with amazing red-fruit character coupled with an intense mouthfeel and smooth lingering finish. The growing season was all around picture perfect; ample off-season rains and moderate springtime temperatures created mature ripe fruit entering into the late fall months. As with each year, we limited the crop to 3 tons per acre and implemented shoot thinning, leaf pulling and even spacing around the clusters. The "Chivos" block of Cabernet Sauvignon presented brilliance in dark color and herbal-earthly taste, while the "Autopista" block developed more high tone fruit characteristics with softer tannins on the finish. Finally, a small amount of Petite Sirah was added and blended to the wine in order to create further structure and increase the wine's long lasting cellar potential.

THE WINEMAKING

The grapes were picked and processed at day break at Sculpterra's small onsite winery. As always minimal winemaking was implemented in order to bring out the best natural flavors from the vineyard. All fruit was destemmed and whole-berry fermented in new 500L barrels as well as 1-ton macro bins. Pungeon fermentation captured the wine's rich dark color and helped with integrating the young tannins, fleshing out the wine's long tasting finish. We selected three unique yeasts to ferment these wine lots, yeasts ICV-D254, ICV-D80 and BDX. This wine is a blend of two Cabernet Sauvignon blocks, "Chivos" and "Autopista." These wine lots were the best tasting Cabernet Sauvignon vineyards from 2018, for they displayed the greatest identifiable classic Cabernet Sauvignon aromas, matched with power and firm structure.

THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon & 10% Petite Sirah
Appellation: Paso Robles
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate
Block: Chivos & Autopista
Finished Alcohol: 15.0%
Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.04g/100ml
Total Acid: 0.65 g/100ml
pH: 3.62
Bottling Date: August 12, 2020
Release Date: December 1, 2020
Total Production: 230 Cases

THE TASTE

Sculpterra's 100% Estate grown and produced Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon shows off flavors of chocolate truffle, ripe black olive, crushed violet, mature blueberry and spiced candied aromas that mix seamlessly together on this full-bodied age worthy classic! This wine's smooth palate offers ripe blueberry and hints of raspberry jam, with blackberry and clove aromas, all of which are further interrupted with bouquets of smoked sausage. My favorite part of this wine is the velvety smooth tannins that provide polished backing to the wonderfully dark and fruit-driven flavors. The oak barrel aging shines through on the finish, offering woody and graceful structure. With 22 months of barrel aging this wine is expressive and approachable right now, but I can only imagine how great it will taste with proper cellar age and care. Drink now through 2030.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker