

2022 STATUESQUE



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 37% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Petite Sirah, 29% Syrah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate, Gene from the Village, San Miguel Vineyards

Block: Autopista, Gene's Workshop, Casa Grande, Lago De Los Patos, Sol

Para Todos

Finished Alcohol: 14.5%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.10 g/100ml

Total Acid: 0.65 g/100ml

pH: 3.68

Bottling Date: February 15, 2024 Total Production: 885 Cases

Statuesque is the darkest, richest, and biggest of our blends. This harmonious blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Sirah, and Syrah comes together, producing a perfectly full and powerful wine.

THE VINEYARD

The fruit of this blend comes from five different vineyard sites. The principal grape is Cabernet Sauvignon, grown on a Frankel Family Estate hillside vineyard. This vineyard is planted on a steep slope with mostly sandy soils. The grapes ripen early and raisin-up with tiny berries that produce a strong taste and dark color. The Petite Sirah is sourced from our own "Lago De Los Patos" vineyard as well as Rafael Jimenz's "Sol Para Todos," located on the west side of San Miguel - each provides something different to the blend. The Frankel Vineyard Petite is much more fruit driven in nature, while Rafael's offers spicy and earthy notes. Finally, our Syrah is sourced right from our own property as well as our neighbor on Penman Springs Road, Eugene Alonso Vineyards. Eugene's Syrah is grown in a valley, hugging the Huero Huero Creek bed. Our estate Syrah is grown right next to the Frankel Family Log Cabin. These young vines ripen early and bring forth flavors of baked cherrypie.

THE WINEMAKING

These grapes were harvested both by hand and by machine harvester; we used whichever method was safest depending on the terrain of each vineyard. Fermentation took place at Sculpterra Winery. We used a brand-new barrel type for the "Hilltop" Cab. These 5-Star Trust barrels combine French, Hungarian, and American Oak in the same barrel! Syrah was aged in new French Oak 500L barrels. Finally, the Petite Sirah wine was spilt into two barrel programs: new Cornerstone American Oak barrels for Rafael's Petite and new Seguin Moreau barrels for Frankel Vineyard Estate Petite Sirah. The total blend ended up with a total of 80% new oak.

THE TASTE

Red fruit aromas of cherry, blackberry and kitchen spices with hints of stony flint create a well-structured red blend that is complex and distinctive. The front and mid palate show vibrant acidity, while the wine's ending is tight, bone dry and tannic. Peppery flavors meet black and green olives over an underlying quality of berry fruits. Again, it has firm tannins and a prolonged finish with notes of oak smoke added to the aftertaste. This wine is absolutely full-bodied, and with 34% Petite Sirah it is a very age worthy blend. Overall, this wine has great balance, elaborate layers of ripe plum, raisin and a smooth finish, making this blend a keeper for many years. Savor it now or hold onto to it; this wine should reach its peak by the end of the decade.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker