

# SCULPTERRA 2019 CABERNET FRANC

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



## THE FACTS

**Varietal Composition:**  
100% Cabernet Franc  
**Appellation:** Paso Robles  
**Vineyard:** Frankel Family Estate  
**Block:** Lago De Los Patos  
**Finished Alcohol:** 15.0%  
**Residual Sugar(G/F):** 0.10 g/100ml  
**Total Acid:** 0.67 g/100ml  
**pH:** 3.70  
**Bottling Date:** August 18, 2021  
**Release Date:** December 1, 2021  
**Total Production:** 300 Cases

## THE VINEYARD

This 2019 vintage is a remarkably fine representation of Cabernet Franc. The grapes are estate grown right in front of the tasting room, in a block called, "Lago De Los Patos." Our vineyard is in the Paso Robles AVA and in the sub-AVA called El Pomar District, stretching from the end of the Templeton Gap and butting up to the Geneseo area. The vineyard is incredibly uniform, clean and is one of the first reds to ripen on the ranch. The vines are pruned and limited to twelve spurs per vine, around twenty buds and usually about ten pounds of fruit per vine. The vineyard is set up perfectly with a spilt canopy trellis system, not normally found in a Cab Franc site. This open style canopy greatly increases sunlight and airflow in and around each grape cluster. I am proud to say that our Cabernet Franc grapes get fully mature and ripe, typically we harvest at 26.5 BRIX but in 2019 we harvested at an ultra-ripe 28.5 BRIX!

## THE WINEMAKING

The hand harvested grapes were whole berry destemmed then fermented in one stainless steel tank at Sculpterra Winery. The wine was kept cool during fermentation, creating a long and steady fermentation to increase the inherent fruity components present. We choose Scotts Lab cultivated yeast strain T73 for its ability to increase peppery notes, trap dark color in the skins, and soften the wine's tannins. No new oak was used in the aging of this wine, giving the fruit the utmost expression. We aged the wine in 300L and 500L neutral barrels and topped/tasted the wine periodically throughout the aging process. The final blend is 100% Cabernet Franc, making this a true stand-alone variety that shows off very unique tastes. The puckering and slightly astringent tannins are very present in the mouthfeel of this wine; making it a wine that can age for years to come. In total 300 cases were bottled in August 2021.

## THE TASTE

Our 100% Cabernet Franc is made very traditional and true to the varietal. The flavors represent Cabernet Franc at its best, combining green peppery notes with dark fruits and dynamic acidity and tannins. Roasted aromas of red currants and strawberry congregate with peppered meats, jalapeño, and seared tomatoes. There's a captivating amount of tension to the palate, where a good volume of herbal green bouquets are then embellished by dark-plum and chocolate accents. It's easy to spot green mint flavors that quickly turn into tiny wild berries and dried cranberries in the mid-palate. Terroir flavors of slate, dried meats and a hint of lemon zest make this wine lively and very fresh. The wine shows off generous acidity, finishing dry and tannic. Rest assured this wine can age for a good 10+ years, reaching its peak in 2030.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker