

SCULPTERRA 2015 PINOT NOIR

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Clonal Breakdown: 56% Clone 777 & 44% Clone 115
Appellation: Paso Robles
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate
Block: Escalon & Paul's Forest
Finished Alcohol: 113.2%
Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.43 g/100ml
Total Acid: .64 g/100ml
pH: 3.70
Bottling Date: December 14, 2016
Total Production: 400 Cases

THE VINEYARD

Frankel Vineyard's Pinot Noir is specifically located on the cool valley floor, butting up to Cripple Creek in the rolling hills of the Geneseo district in gorgeous Paso Robles. Both clones were planted in 2003 with 2008 being the first commercial vintage for Sculpterra Winery. The soils of rocky-stone, limestone regions, and effective drainage, make this block very special. This 2015 vintage is strictly confident with focused fruit taste yet refined in tactile feel. The unique palate is inherit to Frankel Vineyards, which has proven to be a standout Pinot Noir vineyard in the AVA. What makes the vineyard special is the amazing attention to detail, with pruning, shoot thinning and harvesting selected fruit. Both clones were harvested in early September at peak ripeness and stable acidity in the grape.

THE WINEMAKING

Our winemaking protocol is always being true to the varietal in every way possible, and Pinot Noir is the biggest challenge we face each year. The fruit came in in the cool of the morning and we lightly destemmed the berries and begun a 36 hour cold soak before the introduction of yeast. Fermentation was slow and steady lasting just over 2 weeks to complete. We extracted the free run juice, lightly pressed the skins and settled the wine in tank for 2 days before racking down into barrels. We selected only the best-used 225L French barrels for aging. I personally tasted these Pinot Noir lots every month, making notes of mouth feel, change in fruity qualities, and overall tactile impact. Both clones were aged separately and final blending was implemented the week of bottling.

THE TASTE

What a wonderful and aromatic nose! This bottling of our vineyard's best Pinot Noir lots is both juicy and delicate at the same time. Vibrant flavors of cranberry, pomegranate, hibiscus and even red melon show on the palate, enhanced by sage and purple flowers. Exotic yet classic aromas make this medium-bodied wine very compelling. It can easily be paired with lighter meat dishes and herbal red pasta sauces. Black-tea leaves, black cherry, clove and mints are a few of the nuances that flood the palate, and the lush viscosity allows them to linger on the finish. It will develop new taste over the years of bottle age, best enjoyed by 2020.

- Paul Frankel (Winemaker)