

SCULPTERRA CABERNET SAUVIGNON RESERVE

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN

2013



THE VINEYARD

We don't make a reserve Cabernet Sauvignon every year; but because 2013 was one of our very best years for Cabernet I felt the need to highlight the best of the vintage with a new bottle, this limited edition 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve. The fruit is sourced from two stunning blocks found on the Frankel Family Estate, Chivos and Bentley Ironworks. Chivos is planted with north-south row orientation and starts on the peak of a hill leading towards the Huero Huero riverbed. We average only 2 tons per acre, making intense concentrated and tannic wines. Bentley Ironworks Cabernet vines are east-west oriented and cane pruned. The Bentley vineyard gives us the best balance and finesse from the estate. Prior to harvest the grapes were checked on a weekly basis to make sure they were harvested at the peak of ripeness. The grapes came in at the perfect time for full ripe fruit flavors.

THE WINEMAKING

All fruit was hand picked in half-ton bins and processed using our tiny half-ton destemmer. Small machinery is key to preserve the inherent taste of the varietal and vineyard. The fruit from the Chivos block was fermented with yeast ICV-D21, which promotes enhanced color, spicy character, and ageable tannins. The "Bentley" Cab fruit was fermented with yeast BDX, a classic Bordeaux yeast which promotes red fruits, lush aftertaste, and classic ground pepper spice. We pressed then settled the wine for 2 days in stainless steel tanks before racking down and aging the wine in oak barrels. The wine was aged in eight barrels, with two of them being extra fine grain 240L Missouri American oak barrels. Both Cabernet lots were aged separately but blended the week of the bottling.

THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: Chivos & Bentley Ironworks

Finished Alcohol: 15.4%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.04 g/100ml

Total Acid: .65 g/100ml

pH: 3.67

Bottling Date: February 19, 2015

Release Date: December 1, 2016

Total Production: 198 Cases

THE TASTE

The 2013 Cabernet harvest was sensational and brought forth the most complex Cabernet wines I have seen from the estate vineyard! Because the year was so usually good, I decided to separate the vineyard lots out, and use only the best lots for this reserve Cabernet. With only 200 cases bottled, this Cabernet has the complete package of being big and bold yet silky soft. The hue is deep and dark, opaque however still vibrant. You will find strong aromas of blackberry, cassis, ripe blueberries, and chocolate cherries, followed by flavors of spice, black pepper, green olive, mint leaf, and even marshmallow. A unique feature of this wine is the balance it strikes between utter power in taste and texture and its refined elegance on the finish. This wine is meant to be aged, as I predict it will reach top tasting levels in 2020.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker