

# SCULPTERRA

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN

## 2023 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BENTLEY IRONWORKS



### THE FACTS

**Varietal Composition:** 93% Cabernet Sauvignon & 7% Petite Sirah  
**Appellation:** Paso Robles  
**Vineyard:** Frankel Family Estate  
**Finished Alcohol:** 15.00%  
**Residual Sugar(G/F):** 0.05 g/100ml  
**Total Acid:** 0.65 g/100ml  
**pH:** 3.55  
**Bottling Date:** May 14, 2025  
**Release Date:** Dec 1, 2025  
**Total Production:** 780 Cases

### THE VINEYARD

Bentley Ironworks is our flagship Cabernet Sauvignon bottling, and this vintage will go down as one of the best we've produced. Without a doubt 2023 was a superior vintage for the Paso Robles AVA and especially great for Cabernet. Monumental winter rains cleansed our soils and rejuvenated our water supply. The cool spring and summer increased the grapes' acidity and rich color. The long fall harvest created mature phenolics and flavors in the grapes. This 3.5-acre vineyard is nestled in the lowest elevated plot of land at Frankel Vineyard's. Cripple Creek flooded a portion of this vineyard in 2023. The vineyard soils are calcareous in nature, with some limestone, gravel and rocky sections. We head-train and cane prune the vines on a trellis, crafting the canopy to produce lots of clusters with tiny concentrated berries. The fruit was mechanically harvested and sorted during the evening of November end 2023; making it the latest we have picked this block in 10 years.

### THE WINEMAKING

The fruit was whole berry destemmed and fermented in both 500L French Oak Puncheon barrels and a stainless-steel tank. The barrel fermentation was remarkable, aiding in structure, tannin stabilization and trapping the juice's naturally dark color. Barrels were fermented with the classic Bordeaux standard yeast called BDX, while the tank fermentation was fermented with a new world strain called STRUCTURE. The wine fermented steadily and slowly, followed by pressing, racking and aging in barrels. This wine is aged in 100% new barrels, a mix of the very best barrels we buy including Vernou, Demptos and T.W Boswell. There is so much barrel complexity in this wine, yet the flavors are balanced and work together to perfection. We added 7% Petite Sirah to the final blend giving this wine increased structure, depth and richness on its finish.

### THE TASTE

This is a Rockstar wine! It is almost impossible to describe all the great aromas and bouquets it offers...but I'll give it a try! The oak shines, giving whiffs of vanilla, tobacco, candied caramel, black coffee, and smoked meat. The fruit notes power their way in, giving black cherry, plum, raisin, and jolly rancher candy. Finally, the wine provides herbal and spice notes, with the taste of green olive, jalapeno poppers, green bay leaf, and rosemary. This wine will benefit from a good decanting and should reach its peak by 2029.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker