



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition:

100% Syrah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate & Gene's Village

Finished Alcohol: 14.2%

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

Total Acid: 0.70 g/100ml

pH: 3.65

Bottling Date: December 15, 2021

Release Date: February 1, 2022

Total Production: 294 Cases

THE VINTAGE

After a 2-year hiatus, Sculpterra is delighted to bring back our very own 100% Syrah wine! The grapes are grown in two locations, the first from Eugene Alonso Penman Spring Road vineyard and the second from the Frankel Family Estate. 2020 was a challenging growing season on the Central Coast of California, but perhaps the best vintage of Syrah wine ever produced in the region! This wine features glorious fruit tones, combined with a peppery mouthfeel and a smooth dry finish. Eugene's Syrah vineyard is now 20 years old and only produces 1.5 tons per acre annually. The vineyard has some rocky, firm soils and sees intense afternoon sunlight, aiding the ripening of the grapes. Frankel Vineyard Syrah is grown in three separate, tiny vineyards scattered throughout the estate. These young vines offer fresh aromatics, dark colored juice and truly a fresh floral feel. Harvest came early in 2020 mainly due to multiple days of excessive heat in August. All grapes were hand-picked overnight and delivered to the winery at dawn.

THE WINEMAKING

All fruit was destemmed/crushed at Sculpterra Winery with a portion of the fruit whole berry fermented in stainless steel tanks and new 500L Hungarian Puncheon barrels. 2020 was the first year Sculpterra used the new 20HL Euro-press balder press. This new world press was super gentle on the grape skins and operates soft and smooth, perfect for Syrah's thin skins and slick texture. Racking and settling was also conducted in stainless steel tanks, and finally the wine was "put to bed," and barrel aged for 14 months in exclusively 500L barrels. As noted before two lots make up this 100% Syrah wine; Eugene Alonso Lot and the Frankel Vineyards Estate lot. Eugene's fruit showed tannins, dark color, earthy bouquets and an intense mouthfeel throughout the fermentation and aging process. Frankel Vineyards Syrah was more reserved, elegant, fruit driven and medium bodied on the palate. The blending of the two lots was a match made in heaven, as the flavors combined are better than the individual separate lots.

THE TASTE

Sculpterra's 2020 Syrah is a tremendous offering, a wine filled with spice and layered with red fruits. This 100% Syrah wine blended from two unique vineyards offers crisp blackberry and slight vanilla flavors accented by smoky tones of earth and oregano. Spicy plum sauce, licorice and black pepper start up front and then mold into a mid-palate that ends with a velvety feel. This wine shows off deeply concentrated blackberry and ground pepper flavors covered by floral tones of lavender and rose petal. At bottling it is tightly wound and a touch tannic and drying, but rest assured it opens up beautifully in the bottle and will continue to improve further through 2028.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker