

SCULPTERRA 2015 MOURVÈDRE

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 85% Mourvèdre
& 15% Petite Sirah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: Lago De Los Patos

Finished Alcohol: 15.3%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.10 g/100ml

Total Acid: .62 g/100ml

pH: 3.73

Bottling Date: August 17, 2016

Release Date: February 1, 2018

Total Production: 220 Cases

THE VINTAGE

Our 2015 Mourvèdre is 100% estate grown, crushed, fermented and bottled at Sculpterra Vineyards and Winery. The vineyard, planted in 2005 started producing fruit in 2008. Our current 2015 vintage may be the best vintage yet! The wine has exquisite balance of both fruit and tannin. Historically, Mourvèdre is the last to ripen on our property, however, the impact of the drought and hot summer in 2015 ripened the fruit early and we harvested the block on September 14th. By far the most impactful part to the grapes is the climate and soil. This Mourvèdre vineyard has a dramatic climate; hot days and cool nights in spring and summer cultivate the exceptional fruit. The soil is a mix of rocky limestone and clay-loam. As with each vintage, the hard working vineyard team hand works the vines with pruning, leaf pulling, shoot thinning, and additional cluster dropping all of which helps improve grape quality come harvest time.

THE WINEMAKING

The fruit was destemmed and fermented in both oak barrels and macro bins. The must was cold soaked for two days before introduction of yeast. The wine fermented dry in 12 days followed by pressing and settling out. 15% Petite Sirah was blended into the wine during the week of filtration and bottling. The addition of the Petite Sirah was helpful for three reasons. Number one, it adds structure and tannins to the finish of the wine. Reason two, the color is enhanced by the addition of the dark, full-bodied Petite Sirah. And finally Petite Sirah brings forth a new element of dark fruit flavors. We bottled the wine just after 10 months of barrel age providing the wine a youthful appeal and fresh finish.

THE TASTE

Now in its eighth vintage, our 2015 estate grown Mourvèdre shows brilliance in structure and finish. I feel that this is a richer take on this beefy Rhone variety compared to our previous vintages. The aromas are dominated with baked cherries, piecrust, allspice, black pepper and a touch of smoky bacon. The palate is very juicy, present with pungent fruits and action-packed on the finish! The flavors saturate the palate with walnuts, clove and dark chocolate notes. It's bold in body, has plenty of tannins for grip, and a lingering, rich finish. Drink this wine through 2020.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker