

THE VINEYARD

This Viognier is a blend of four amazing Paso Robles Vineyards. Each vineyard provides a unique taste to the final bottle blend. Frankel Family Estate and Suky Suran Home vineyards are located in the El Pomar District, Robert Hall's home vineyard is located in the Estrella District and Deerfield vineyard is located in the Templeton Gap District. 2022 was a very challenging growing season with many weather hurdles to overcome. The weeks leading up to and following Labor Day weekend saw an average of 110 degrees every day for over 12 days straight! The extreme heat ripened the fruit a full 2 weeks earlier than last year, also the crop load was lighter than we expected and therefore we made less wine than we had hoped for. Grape quality was good, and the fermenting wine contained all the flavors we have come to expect from our Viognier.

THE WINEMAKING

All grapes were harvested overnight and delivered to the winery at first light. The four vineyards were picked at different levels of ripeness with Frankel Vineyards being the ripest of the bunch for a third year in a row. The first wine making process was to press the grapes, separating the skins, and seed from the desired juice. We set the press to 1.5 bars and achieved 150 gallons of juice per ton. The next process was to chill the juice to a cold 45 degrees for two full days. After chilling for two days, we followed with racking the juice and added yeast for the fermentation process to begin. The four Viognier vineyards were processed as individual lots with different yeast strains. The wines fermented to complete dryness and then aged in stainless steel tanks. We blended the four wines together one month before bottling.

THE TASTE

Héroé wines are produced to be easy drinking, showcasing fresh fruit taste and is a terrific pair to an array of fine foods. Our Héroé Viognier pairs great with Thai foods, such as Tom Kha Kai (Chicken in Coconut Soup). The wine's taste is brightly balanced with both ripe sweet fruit taste and tart crisp apple like acidity. Hence many tropical flavors in this wine, such as peach, dates, mangoes and nectarines. Vinified with no new-oak influences it showcases fresh apricot and grapefruit flavors framed by an intensely mineral mouthfeel.

THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Viognier
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate, Sukhy's Home Ranch,
Robert Hall Home, & Deerfield Road Vineyard
pH: 3.75
TA: 0.72
RS: 0.90
ALC: 14.5%
Case Production: 630 Cases (750ml bottles)
Bottling Date: February 3, 2023

