



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 87% Primitivo
& 13% Petite Sirah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: 8-Acre Ridgeline
& Lago De Los Patos

Finished Alcohol: 15.7%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.06 g/100ml

Total Acid: 0.68 g/100ml

pH: 3.59

Bottling Date: August 12, 2020

Release Date: December 1, 2020

Total Production: 285 Cases

THE VINEYARD

Our estate grown Primitivo Reserve wine is incredibly layered with dark fruity taste, centered and focused with firm tannins and a rich chocolate finish. What makes this wine a Reserve you ask? Well, it's the best lots of Primitivo made from the 2018 harvest. That means that only the finest and best tasting Primitivo barrels were chosen and blended for this remarkable wine. In fact, this wine is a blend of two Primitivo lots from the 8-acre Ridgeline block, both of which were amazing on their own but even better when blended together. The 2018 vintage was a splendid growing season for Frankel Vineyards. Greater than average off-season rains aided in the cleansing of our soils and led to a healthy spring time growth. Light yields and tiny berries created concentrated wines that are very cellar worthy.

THE WINEMAKING

The grapes were hand-picked at four o'clock in the morning into half ton macro bins and delivered to the winery at the first light of day. The clusters were whole berry destemmed, not crushed, and fermented in one-ton macro bins and in new 500L open top Puncheon Barrels. We cold soaked the fruit for 36 hours before the introduction of cultured yeast. Fermentation lasted 3 weeks to complete dryness, followed by pressing, racking, settling, and barreling the wine into American Oak barrels. The wine aged in 83% new American Oak, giving the wine strong flavors of coconut, cedar, grilled notes and even butterscotch. Petite Sirah was added the week prior to bottling which added greater strength and structure to this already fantastic wine.

THE TASTE

Our all estate grown fruit for this 2018 Reserve Primitivo is blended with 13% Petite Sirah, and is abundantly fruit-driven with compelling spice bouquets. The aromas are generously juicy, with graceful dried fruit that highlights this unique wine. Made in a big, robust and full-bodied fashion, this wine offers structure and entices your senses with layers of cola, berry, plum, dark cherry and a lasting twist of oregano and black pepper on the finish. Overall, it's a hearty wine with hints of earthy tones, black olive, blackberry and even ripe strawberry. It is a big wine yet the mouthfeel is soft, and well-integrated tannins provide a footing of weight and space. The finish is intense yet clean with teases of dried herbs with black licorice mingling with lasting acidity. This is a wine to age, hold onto it at least until 2028 for peak performance.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker