

SCULPTERRA 2023 VIOGNIER

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



THE FACTS

Appellation: Paso Robles
Vineyard: Frankel Estate, Sukhy's Home Ranch, Robert Hall Home
Finished Alcohol: 14.8%
Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.75 g/100ml
Total Acid: 0.75 g/100ml
pH: 3.70
Bottling Date: February 3, 2023
Release Date: February 10, 2023
Total Production: 1,470 Cases

THE VINEYARD

We experienced record-setting rain in 2023, along with a mild spring and summer, all of which set us up with remarkably high-quality fruit. This 100% Viognier is a blend of three distinct Paso Robles Vineyards. Our own Frankel Estate Viognier Vineyard, is located in the El Pomar Sub AVA. It contains clay-loam soils and has drastic temperature swings that amplify the unique taste. Sukhy Suran's Creston Road Viognier is situated on a steep hillside with tight condensed rows that produce light tonnage and small berries. Robert Hall Home Vineyard sits atop a small hill with two meandering creeks flanking the sides. These three vineyards were harvested at different target BRIX levels, ranging from 23.5 to 27.0; crafting a wine with complexity, diversity, and balance.

THE WINEMAKING

Each Viognier lot is made on its own, using different yeast strains and fermentation temperatures creating unique and diverse attributes. A final blend is then created. The hand-picked grapes are lightly pressed at 1.6 bars in order to release the juice for cold settling and fermentation to begin. Yeast ICV-D254 was selected for our Frankel Estate Viognier for its ability to enhance structure and highlight stone fruits. Yeast BA-11 was used for Sukhy's Viognier - it's known to create floral notes as well as improve structure and finish. Finally Cross Evolution yeast was used for Robert Hall's fruit and brings classic Viognier crisp apple and pear notes. We bottle the wine as soon as it's ready! That essential part captures the youth, vibrance, and elegance in flavor and structure. In total, each lot fermented on average for 30 days before cold and heat stability was achieved.

THE TASTE

Viognier is certainly a "Red Wine Drinker's White Wine," with its rich mouthfeel, strong structure, and big finish, and our Viognier is exactly that! White peach, nectarine, cantaloupe, passion fruit and white flowers are a few of its characteristics. This wine has it all! Featuring stone and passion fruits alike, culminating with a big structure and hefty finish. A surplus of aromas and flavors are finely layered and incorporated throughout the length of its finish. aromas of lemon-lime, nectarine, peach, plum, pear, white blossom, and mandarin orange lead into exquisite and full flavors, giving lush textures with a perfect balance of acidity. Its elevated alcohol lifts the body with a lingering ripe fruit taste that continues on the finish.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker