

SCULPTERRA 2018 PINOT NOIR

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition:

100% Pinot Noir

Clonal Breakdown:

64% Clone 777 & 36% Clone 115

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: Escalon & Paul's Forest

Finished Alcohol: 13.5%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.62 g/100ml

Total Acid: 0.69 g/100ml

pH: 3.72

Bottling Date: December 11, 2019

Total Production: 1,120 Cases

THE VINEYARD

Sculpterra's estate grown 2018 Pinot Noir is a fascinating wine that will prove to be a fan favorite for years to come. Our Frankel Vineyard has demonstrated once again that Paso Robles can grow outstanding and award-winning Pinot Noir! This vintage stands out for its wonderful balance in fully ripe flavors, rich textures and lingering smooth finish. 2018 was a near perfect year for our valley vineyard Pinot Noir blocks. Both clonal vineyards, 115 and 777, show unique "terroir" notes, highlighted by differences in soil, drainage and slope. Clone 777 is featured on a relatively flat plateau setting, where lush clay soils create good growth and healthy fruit. Clone 115 is planted on the incline heading west, and the vines drink much less water and therefore produce tiny berries with concentrated color and aroma. Our vineyard team was extra careful in 2018 in the handling of the fruit during harvest, and we were immensely pleased with the quality of the grapes.

THE WINEMAKING

The fruit was processed at Sculpterra Winery starting at 4:00 in the morning! Harvesting early in the day ensures the best quality fruit imaginable. The fruit has to arrive at the winery cold, long before the hot sun beats down on the delicate berries. We cold-soaked the crushed must for 3 days before adding yeast for fermentation to begin. The wine fermented very slowly, enhancing the complexity on the palate and uniqueness in its finish. No new oak was used in the aging of this wine, consequently, the wine showcases the vineyard at its best! You can really taste all aspects of the vineyard and the delightful blend of these two exceptional clones. Clone 115 brings forth rich color, heavy textures and chalky minerality. Clone 777 is all about fresh, vibrant, up front fruit, with notes of pomegranate dominating the overall flavor. The perfect union of these clones is unmatched for its style, beauty and strength. This Pinot Noir changes quickly in the glass, so give it a good swirl and note the intoxicating bouquet.

THE TASTE

This wine is a blend of two Pinot Noir clones; clones 115 and 777 come together in perfect balance and harmony. I love the enticing aromas of ripe red cherry and freshly picked strawberries. The nose is elegant and lifted by touches of rose petal and hibiscus flower. My favorite part of this wine is on the palate where a strong offering of pure fruit flavors like boysenberry and red plum match easily alongside touches of sandalwood and nutmeg. The wine finishes with a pinch of ground black pepper. Overall, this wine shows layered complexity and round, all-encompassing mouthfeel. It ends vividly fresh and is certainly a wine to be enjoyed during its youth.

- Paul Frankel (Winemaker)