

SCULPTERRA

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN

2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BENTLEY IRONWORKS



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 90% Cabernet Sauvignon & 10% Petite Sirah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: Bentley Ironworks & Lago De Los Patos

Cooperages: Vernou & T.W. Boswell

Barrel Program: 37% New French Oak & 36% New American Oak

Finished Alcohol: 14.6%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.05 g/100ml

Total Acid: .69 g/100ml

pH: 3.72

Bottling Date: February 21, 2018

Release Date: December 1, 2019

Total Production: 295 Cases

THE VINEYARD

This is a powerfully tannic and oaky wine from an amazing vintage and vineyard. This vintage marks the 9th release of Sculpterra's finest Cabernet Sauvignon. The wine is named after master blacksmith and ironworker Robert Bentley who's workshop sits right in front of the picturesque vineyard. Bob Bentley has worked for the Frankel Family 20 plus years and has built gates, fencing, chandeliers, and many other ornate ironworking at the tasting room. The vines are head trained cane pruned and oriented directly east west. The vineyard follows Cripple Creek and therefore the soils contain rocky outcroppings and maintain good drainage. 2016 was a great overall growing season for our Cabernet Sauvignon. Balanced yields gave way to an early harvest of sweet fruit coupled with good natural acid.

THE WINEMAKING

Our 2016 Bentley Ironworks Cabernet Sauvignon was picked in two parts, an early ripe lot and an extremely ripe lot. This style of winemaking achieves the best flavors from the vineyard, attaining the most intense varietal expression possible. Each lot was handled separately and aged in different oak barrels. The first lot aged exclusively in new French Oak Puncheon barrels, while the second lot aged in a combination of new American oak and neutral barrels. This wine is a blend of 90% Cabernet Sauvignon all sourced from "Bentley Ironworks" block and 10% Petite Sirah sourced from the praised vineyard, "Lago De Los Patos." The Petite Sirah was added for its ability to increase the wine's attack, overall tannic structure, and add dense dark fruit flavors that aid in the wine's lustrous finish. Only 295 cases were produced and the wine will age in bottle for 18 months before being released in our tasting room.

THE TASTE

This remarkable wine will only get better with age and proper aeration. It's tailored around classic Cabernet Sauvignon aromas of strong oaky bouquets and layered with complex herbal spice on its finish. It's dazzling and perfumed, welcoming and hugely structured, with a loud complex mid-palate of intriguing plum and pepper. It even shows elements of being gentle and balanced with subtle oak infused tannins. Clove, red currant and cedar shavings wrap around the pallet while weight and power prolong the finish. Dusty aged tannins and pepper reveal themselves on the lengthy finish, helping to make this wine a strong candidate for prolonged cellar time. It is enjoyable now, but will also age for decades to come.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker