

SCULPTERRA 2016 PETITE SIRAH

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition:

100% Petite Sirah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

Block: Lago De Los Patos

Finished Alcohol: 15.9%

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

Total Acid: .64 g/100ml

pH: 3.72

Bottling Date: August 15, 2018

Release Date: December 1, 2020

Total Production: 135 Cases

THE VINTAGE

Sculpterra's 2016 Petite Sirah is an enormous wine with flavors that embody the essence of great Petite! Aromas like blackberry, plum, raspberry and bouquets of dark chocolate, campfire smoke, and barbecued meats ending with plenty of tannins and length on the finish. 2016 marks the ninth vintage of Petite Sirah for Sculpterra, and you can genuinely taste the elegance and refinement, as this vineyard is now fully in its prime years. The vineyard is situated right in front of Sculpterra's beautiful tasting room in a small 1.5-acre block entitled, "Lago De Los Patos." One unique facet of this vineyard is our use of cross arms in the trellis. 2 cross arms lift the shoots vertically and spread out the clusters from both sides of the canopy. We also cluster drop, leaf pull and shoot thin which greatly improves the uniformity of the fruit and the balanced taste of the berries.

THE WINEMAKING

The fruit was harvested in one lot, but the wine fermented in both new barrels and half-ton macron bins. This fermentation combination enhanced the uniqueness of the wine and greatly boosted its wonderful textures. The wine was aged in a total of 3 barrels; two 475L New AP Johns American Oak Puncheons and one 265L once used barrel giving this wine a total of 78% new oak. Surprisingly, the wine does not come across as being "oak dominate." It is wonderfully composed with fruity taste, tart and acidic textures as well as long and well matured tannins. The oak does provide a strong backbone adding to the rich and dense mouthfeel that will definitely coat your palate and stain your lips.

THE TASTE

Our 100% estate grown Petite Sirah is a super inky purple wine that is dominated with a bouquet of blackberry and plum. Its tannic core takes a back seat to strong flavors of raspberry, licorice, orange zest, and even floral notes of lavender. The tannins are strong and pleasantly coat the gums through the dark chocolate-laced finish. Overall this wine brings deep and dark aromas of black currant, smoke from the oak barrels and end on a note of coffee-caramel candies. It is sure to please crowds seeking a mouth-filling wine. I'd pair it with a Portobello mushroom entrée or even a juicy steak with chipotle spices.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker