



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 91% Zinfandel & 9% Petite Sirah

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Jardine Nut Farms & Frankel Family Estate

Finished Alcohol: 15.0%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.75 g/100ml

Total Acid: 0.70 g/100ml

pH: 3.45

Bottling Date: February 15, 2023

Release Date: April 1, 2023

Total Production: 320 Cases

THE VINEYARD

Sculpterra's Reserve Zinfandel wine blends two outstanding dry-farmed, head-trained westside vineyards, along with a small addition of Petite Sirah from San Miguel. These neighboring Zinfandel vineyards are on the corner of Adelaide Road and Nacimiento Lake Drive in Paso Robles. These soils are primarily sandy light clay and limestone and are limited to a quarter of a ton or up to one ton of fruit per acre (5 tons is typical per acre). The small yields lead to intense dark fruit flavors, tannic skins, and incredibly dark wine. The vines are head-trained and head-pruned with no trellis. These mini bush vines produce leaves that shade and protect the fruit from the blistering summer heat. 2021 saw below-average rainfall making for an even lighter crop than normal and an earlier harvest date of September 19. The Petite Sirah was brought in two weeks later.

THE WINEMAKING

The grapes were hand-picked overnight into half-ton macro bins and transported to the winery on my flatbed trailer. Measures were taken to keep the whole berries cold and intact and fresh fruit flavors preserved. All three lots were destemmed, fermented, pressed, and aged in separate lots. These three small lots were fermented in three-quarter-ton macro bins and kept inside the winery for the entire time of primary fermentation. The must was cold soaked for 2 days followed by yeast introduction with 2 weeks of hand punch downs completed by our winemaking staff twice a day. Once and twice used large format barrels were selected for the aging of this wine. The Petite Sirah barrel, a brand-new Cornerstone American Pennsylvania barrel; adds huge amounts of toast, smoke, and chocolate bouquets to the wine. The barreled lots were blended together in May of 2022, aged as one wine from that point forward, and bottled in February 2023.

THE TASTE

How amazing is this wine! It's hard to imagine another Zinfandel with this much body, presence, power, and smooth finish...this wine is sure to impress. The two westside dry-farmed Paso Robles Zinfandel vineyards blend together beautifully and are only improved with the small addition of Petite Sirah. The nose is dominated by blackberry, chocolate cherry, blueberry, and caramel apple. The taste is seamless, bringing smoky oaky bouquets that are held together by herbs, pepper, and dusted earth. This wine is tannic, yet slightly sweet on the finish giving it easy-drinking quality. This wine will age wonderfully, reaching its peak in 2028.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker