



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard & Block: Sculpterra Vineyards, Hillside, Chivos, Bomba Vieja, & Bentley Ironworks

Finished Alcohol: 14.40%

Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.01 g/100ml

Total Acid: .66 g/100ml

pH: 3.71

Bottling Date: August 22, 2013

Release Date: December 1, 2015

Total Production: 324 Cases

Retail Price: \$36.00

THE VINEYARD

Sculpterra Winery and Frankel Vineyards have a tremendous reputation in high end Cabernet Sauvignon production. The vines are 20 years old, non-grafted, low yielding, and planted in a variety of locations on the ranch. In fact this wine is a blend of 4 different estate vineyard locations, the Hillside, Bomba Vieja, Chivos, and the Bentley ironworks blocks. The vineyards give this wine diverse fruit complexity, structure and uniqueness. 2005 marked the first vintage and received 3 gold medals at various California wine competitions. This 2012 vintage has amazing promise and could likely go down as the very best from the estate grown winery. The vineyards are hand manicured, from pruning, to selected shoots, leaf and cluster thinning, all the way to hand picking and fruit sorting. We use two people to sort fruit during the harvest, making the wine very uniform and impeccably clean.

THE WINEMAKING

We implement a very stern “hands off” winemaking philosophy with minimal interface during fermentation and barrel aging. Each vineyard lot is processed separately, and kept separate until blending and bottling. I love to analyze each vineyard by itself; it helps me to determine the best blending percentages. The Hillside fruit features jammy notes, while Chivos and Bomba Vieja show black pepper spice, and Bentley Ironworks is cherry like with a ample amount of dusty tannins. Fruit is destemmed, followed by a week of fermentation in small bins, and then we press with our gentle basket press. Wine is left to settle for 2 days before first rack into barrels for ageing. This wine aged for 18 months in 27% new American oak, and 4 % New Hungarian Oak.

THE TASTE

Sculpterra’s estate grown, limited production Cabernet Sauvignon is a striking wine, plush in aged tannins, packed with berry-laden fruits, bursting with dark chocolate and nutty qualities-a great contender for long aging. 2012 was a brilliant vintage for both the vineyard and winemaking team and this wine shows amazing structure, an audacious finish, everything you need from a big Paso Robles Cabernet. What I like about it is its approachability of this wine right now. It’s a fruit-forward, chewy, and dark colored Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink it now, let it age, either way it’s a jewel-classically grown and produced Sculpterra Cabernet.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker