

SCULPTERRA

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN

2014 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BENTLEY IRONWORKS



THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 87% Cabernet Sauvignon & 13% Petite Sirah
Appellation: Paso Robles
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate
Block: Bentley Ironworks & Lago De Los Patos
Finished Alcohol: 15.3%
Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.02 g/100ml
Total Acid: .68 g/100ml
pH: 3.65
Bottling Date: May 25, 2016
Release Date: December 1, 2017
Total Production: 185 Cases

THE VINEYARD

2014 marks the 7th vintage release of Sculpterra premier Cabernet Sauvignon, “Bentley Ironworks.” The wine is named after master blacksmith and ironworker Robert Bentley who’s work shop sits right in front of the picturesque vineyard. These vines are the best of the best from the 135-acre estate Frankel Vineyard. The vines are now twenty years old and year after year produce the finest Cab fruit on the property. With old-school cane pruned and head trained vines, this vineyard resembles an old chateau in the Medoc region of Bordeaux France. The clusters and berries are super small resulting in concentrated dark and robust wines. The soils are a perfect mix of small stone, gravel, and limestone with a clay-loam profile. We harvest the vineyard in two lots, one at ripeness and one an extreme ripeness.

THE WINEMAKING

All fruit was destemmed, pressed, settled, racked and barrel aged at Sculpterra Winery, located on the Frankel Family Estate Ranch. The grapes were harvested in two separate lots. The first was fermented and aged in two new Vernou French Oak 500L barrels, and the second lot was bin fermented and aged in new T.W Boswell Legacy American Oak 240L barrels. Lot one shows classic Cabernet characteristics with black pepper, spice chocolate cake and cherry pie fruit. Lot two showed heightened levels of ripeness with BBQ and grilled bouquets, vanilla, molasses, and cigar box. I let the wine age for 19 months in barrel, allowing for maximum barrel impact before bottling in May 2016.

THE TASTE

This limited edition small production estate grown Cabernet is sure to please any lover of Cabernet Sauvignon. It’s so well structured and balanced with just the right amount of tannins and tart berry taste. It gracefully achieves an intriguing mix of cedar and cassis, with meatier elements of black licorice. It sings in the glass, remaining restrained and well designed with full-bodied ripeness. I love the uniqueness of the old vine, cane pruned vineyard and it certainly shines through in flavor and bouquet. The oak is present yet does not over power the polished dark berry taste. This wine will only get better with time. So save a bottle and try it in ten years.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker