



TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

2016 SYRAH



Vintage: The 2016 vintage was another early harvest, similar to 2015. A mild winter with average rainfall provided some drought relief; but bud-break still came 2-3 weeks earlier than normal. Warm spring weather allowed for good berry set and a slightly below average crop. Moderate summer temperatures easily brought the fruit to full maturity. The wines of 2016 have intense aromas and flavors; with nice structure and balance.

Vineyard: There are 12 acres of Syrah planted on the Truchard Estate Vineyard. Four acres are in the “Highlands” region to the north, and 8 acres are located at the southern end of the vineyard. These areas are dominated by austere hillsides composed of volcanic rock and ash. The vines range from 18 – 26 years old and benefit from the unique combination of soil, exposure, and cool Carneros temperatures. The result is a full-bodied wine, with flavors and structure reminiscent of the northern Rhône.

Harvest: Sept. 22 – Oct. 1 • 24.6 °Brix • 3.59 pH • 7.1 g/L TA

Winemaking: All of the fruit was gently destemmed and crushed into open top fermenters with approximately 20% whole berries. Individual lots were inoculated with Pasteur Red yeast. Fermentations were punched down twice daily, with the temperature peaking at 88° F. After 14 days of maceration, each lot was pressed and allowed to settle in tank before going to barrel. The wine was aged for 10 months in both French (90%) and American (10%) oak; 30% of these barrels were new. Rackings occurred every 4 months until bottling in August of 2017. This wine is drinkable upon release, but will reward careful cellaring for the next 10 – 15 years.

Wine Analysis: 14.3 % alcohol • 3.68 pH • 6.4 g/l TA

Tasting Notes: A rich nose of cassis, black cherry, and ripe plum; with a touch of vanilla, leather, and white pepper. The mouth is layered with jammy flavors of blackberry, boysenberry, and red currants; followed by mineral and cracked black pepper. Mouth-filling tannins provide an opulent finish of fruit and spice.

Release Date: December 1, 2017

Cases Produced: 1050 cases

