



TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

2018 SYRAH



Vintage: The 2018 vintage will be remembered as nearly perfect. A cold winter with average rainfall made for a late bud-break. Ideal spring weather allowed for a heavy set. Mild conditions throughout summer and fall allowed the large crop to slowly ripen and develop maximum flavor. The wines of 2018 are powerful but elegant; with firm acidity and beautiful balance. This could be the vintage of the decade!

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 20 – 28 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: Oct. 16 – 30 • 24.5 °Brix • 3.65 pH • 7.0 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 2019. This wine is drinkable upon release, but will reward careful cellaring for the next 10 – 15 years.

Wine Analysis: 14.3 % alcohol • 3.74 pH • 6.2 g/l TA

Tasting Notes: A complex nose of ripe plum, black cherry, and cassis; with a touch of vanilla, leather, earth, 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: January 1st, 2020

Cases Produced: 784 cases

