



MALBEC 2017

VARIETY: 100% MALBEC
PRODUCTION: 515 CASES
ALC./VOL.: 14.8%
OTHER: pH 3.63, TA: 6.9 g/L, RS: 1.7 g/L
CSPC: + 70300

THE GRAPES

Malbec is a grape variety that is native to the south-west of France. It is one of the six grape varieties allowed in a Bordeaux blend. It has become the flagship of wine in Argentina and its popularity has been steadily growing in recent years. This thin-skinned grape has been known to need heat and sun and is a perfect candidate for our Osoyoos East Bench home.

VINTAGE REPORT

The 2017 growing season in Osoyoos did not deliver any significant deviations from the expected weather patterns. Spring was a little cooler and arrived a little later than usual, but summer delivered slightly above average temperatures with little rain which allowed the vineyards to catch up. Many burning wildfires resulted in stagnant air throughout the valley and increased humidity although smoke taint was not a concern. Fall weather was average, with wide diurnal margins in the early fall and a cold snap in early November. On balance – a good typical Osoyoos growing season that delivered quality, well-balanced fruit at harvest.

VINEYARD

- Osoyoos East Bench, Moon Curser Vineyard
- Class 1 vineyard site, south-west aspect and slope.
- Soil: loamy sand with silica and granite composition.
- Harvest date: October 17th, 2017
- Brix at harvest: 25.2 Brix

WINEMAKING

- Grapes hand-picked and sorted in the vineyard, then sorted again prior to destemming and pumping through to fermenters. No crushing.
- Cooler red fermentation at approx. 26°C in variable capacity 5,000 L stainless steel fermenters
- Gentle pumpovers three times daily
- Cooperage: 225 L barriques; François Frères. 27% new French oak, remainder – neutral barrels.
- Malolactic Fermentation: YES, in tank and barrel.
- Filtered: YES
- Fined: NO
- Bottled: March 2019

TASTING NOTES

This is a medium to full-bodied red wine with a dark purple colour. It has intense notes of blueberries, raspberries and cedar dominating the nose. The palate is elegant and fruit-forward with characters of plum, blueberry and sweet leather. The wine has a generous, plush texture backed up with plentiful rich tannins and well-balanced acid structure. With its well-balanced structure and warm finish, this wine drinks well now, but with proper cellaring can be enjoyed over the next seven to ten years.