



BORDER VINES 2020

VARIETIES: 38% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 29% MERLOT, 11% MALBEC
11% PETIT VERDOT, 9% CABERNET FRANC, 2% CARMÉNÈRE

PRODUCTION: 9,995 litres (1,110 cases)

ALC./VOL.: 14.6%

OTHER: pH 3.82, TA: 6.0 g/L, RS: 2.9 g/L

CSPC: + 783936

THE GRAPES

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Malbec, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc, and Carménère are all red grape varieties that are known for being included in wines in the region of Bordeaux, France. They are frequently blended together in varying amounts, depending on the characteristics of each grape, the terroir and the vintage, to form well-structured medium to full-bodied wines. As usual, Chris and Christian, our fab winemakers, followed their hearts and palates in selecting the Bordeaux varieties to include in the blend. The aim of this wine is to showcase the best of what the growing season had to offer, and stay true to producing a well-rounded, delicious blend for all to enjoy.

VINTAGE REPORT

In 2020 spring began slightly later than usual with mild temperatures of around 20°C. Early summer brought rain which contributed to (bad news) lower than expected fruit yields at harvest and thus (good news!) higher sugars and flavour intensities across the board for all of our grape varieties. This rainy period was followed by high heats, which allowed for a great development of complex flavour profiles, while the cooler nights allowed for the development of a bright, natural acidity in the resulting wines. This weather continued through to harvest. 2020 was a year to remember, for many different reasons - one being the level of quality seen from the Moon Curser grapes during the vintage season. The unforgettable season allowed for fantastic flavour development and balanced accumulation of sugars and acidity.

VINEYARD

- Osoyoos East Bench, Home Vineyard
- Osoyoos East Bench, Moon Curser Vineyard
- Osoyoos East Bench, Fernandes Vineyard
- Osoyoos East Bench, Stubbs Vineyard
- Osoyoos East Bench, Kelliher Vineyard
- Osoyoos West, Border Vineyard
- Most Class 1 vineyard sites, south-west aspect/slope.
- Soils: sandy to loamy sand, with silica and granite.
- Harvest dates: mid-late October 2020
- Brix at harvest: Average of 25.1 Brix

WINEMAKING

- Grapes hand-picked and sorted in the vineyard, then sorted again prior to destemming and pumping through to fermenters. No crushing.
- Warm to hot red fermentation, dependent on variety; in the range of approx. 25°C to 30°C in variable capacity 5,000 L stainless steel fermenters.
- Gentle pumpovers three times daily.
- Cooperage: 225 L barriques; François Frères and TN Coopers. 28% new French oak, remainder - neutral barrels.
- Co-fermentation: YES, partial.
- Malolactic Fermentation: YES, in tank.
- Filtered: YES
- Fined: NO
- Vegan: YES
- Bottled: March 2022

TASTING NOTES

Our 2020 Border Vines is the first Bordeaux blend from Moon Curser to feature Merlot since 2014. This means this vintage truly is a blend of all six Bordeaux varieties. This wine is a dry, medium to full-bodied red wine with a deep ruby colour, and is our go-to for a versatile red wine with excellent depth, complexity of flavours and structure. Notes of blackberry, rose, plum and eucalyptus leap out of the glass on the nose. On the palate, this wine is mouth-filling with incredible weight and fresh acidity to balance. The nose is complemented by flavours of blackcurrant, white pepper, cocoa and black cherry. Malbec and Petit Verdot share the stage this year, showcasing fresh notes of mint and lavender. There is great length to the finish and a good concentration of flavours in this vintage, which makes this wine approachable right out of the gate. However this wine will also reward those with patience, as it will benefit from aging in the bottle over the next five to eight years or through to 2027 - 2030.

