



PETIT VERDOT 2020

VARIETY:	100% PETIT VERDOT
PRODUCTION:	2,384 litres (264 cases)
ALC./VOL.:	14.7%
OTHER:	pH 3.70, TA: 6.8 g/L, RS: 2.8 g/L
CSPC:	+ 20982

THE GRAPES

Petit Verdot is a red grape variety that is principally used in Bordeaux blends, often contributing colour, structure and its typical floral notes of rose and violet. Because it is such a bold wine, it is commonly added in proportions of less than 10% to a blend. Its origins are hard to trace, but it is believed to date as far back as the 18th century. It is a late-ripening grape variety and has fallen out of favour in Bordeaux as a result. We have had great success with Petit Verdot grown on the Osoyoos East Bench, and believe that the abundant sun and heat our vineyards get create the perfect growing environment for this grape variety. So much so, we feel confident in showcasing its true potential as an Okanagan single varietal (and single vineyard) wine, not simply hidden away in a blend.

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, Moon Curser Vineyard
- Class 1 vineyard site, south-west aspect/slope.
- Soil: loamy sand, with silica and granite.
- Harvest date: October 8th, 2020
- Brix at harvest: 24.8 Brix

WINEMAKING

- Grapes hand-picked and sorted in the vineyard, then sorted again prior to destemming and pumping through to fermenters. No crushing.
- Warm red fermentation kept at approx. 25°C in a variable capacity 7,000 L stainless steel fermenter.
- Gentle pumpovers three times daily.
- Cooperage: 225 L barriques; François Frères and TN Coopers. 27% new French oak, remainder - neutral barrels.
- Malolactic Fermentation: YES, in tank only.
- Filtered: YES
- Fined: NO
- Vegan: YES
- Bottled: March 2022

TASTING NOTES

This single vineyard wine is a quintessential varietal Petit Verdot. The 2020 vintage is full-bodied, with a deep purple colouring and flavours and aromas to match. Inviting delicate notes of lilac, lavender, rose and eucalyptus dominate the nose. The palate is ripe with notes complementing the nose; cedar, nutmeg, fig and graphite. The elements of oak aging are artfully woven throughout to provide rich tones of dark chocolate and truffle on the edges of the palate. The palate is rich with tannins and a bright acidity that lengthens out the finish. This is an elegant and tannin driven wine. While fairly approachable now, this wine will definitely reward those who can set the bottle aside for several years. The wine will start to reveal its true potential after three to five years of cellaring (by 2027), with beneficial aging continuing for an additional five years (ten years in total after bottling).