

2019 RHAPSODY

RESERVE - PASO ROBLES

Rhapsody is Opolo's signature Left Bank-style cuvée, driven by Cabernet Sauvignon and blended with four classic Bordeaux varieties: Malbec, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc and Merlot. This wine ultimately represents our deepening commitment to Paso Robles Cabernet Sauvignon as a centerpiece of our portfolio.

Vineyards

The 2019 Rhapsody is composed predominantly of Cabernet Sauvignon from the westside Templeton Gap District. Here—in the path of cooling marine breezes that flow inland through a gap in the coastal mountains—the fruit achieves dark color with depth and phenolic intensity, making it the perfect cornerstone for this cuvée. The remaining fruit comes from two estate vineyards in the warmer Estrella District, along with a small contribution from the Willow Creek District.

Winemaking

After harvesting, the fruit was cold soaked for three days for a gentle extraction of color and flavor. The different lots were fermented in stainless steel fermenters over an average period of 14 days. After gentle pressing, the free-run juice was settled and racked to French oak barrels, inclusive of 35 percent new oak for enhanced structure and complexity. Exclusive use of free-run juice ensured the highest phenolic quality for color and mouthfeel. At the 15-month mark, winemakers James Schreiner and Chris Rougeot evaluated each lot and assembled the final blend, after which the wine was returned to barrels for an additional three months of integration prior to bottling.

Winemakers' Tasting Notes

The 2019 Rhapsody opens with heady aromas of plum, black cherry and black currant with hints of black olive and roasted cocoa bean. A sleek texture delivers rich layers of blackberry, blueberry and juicy cherry, trailed by suggestions of cola and almond biscotti. Elegant weight, measured acidity and fine tannins bring the wine to an impressively balanced finish.

Varietal Composition

Cabernet Sauvignon 70%
Malbec 14%
Petit Verdot 10%
Merlot 3%
Cabernet Franc 3%

Appellation

Paso Robles

Sub AVAs

Templeton District Estrella District Willow Creek District

Aging

18 Months in French Oak (35% New)

Analysis

TA: .65 pH: 3.79

Alc. by Volume: 14.5% Cases Produced: 1,649

