

Opolo

2020 RHAPSODY

PASO ROBLES, CA

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

VINEYARDS

The 2020 Rhapsody comes from select vineyards in the westside Templeton Gap District as well as Opolo's estate vineyards in the Willow Creek and Estrella districts. The Templeton Gap resides in the path of cooling marine breezes that flow inland through a notch in the coastal mountains. Here, the fruit achieves a dark color with depth and phenolic intensity, making it the perfect cornerstone for this cuvée. Similar conditions apply to the fruit from our Willow Creek District estate, while fruit from our warmer Estrella District estate brings enhanced roundness and softness to the mouthfeel.

WINEMAKING

After harvesting, the fruit was cold soaked for three to four days for a gentle extraction of color and flavor. The majority of the lots were fermented in stainless steel over an average period of 14 days, while the Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc were fermented in small open-top tanks. After gentle pressing, the free-run juice was settled and racked to French oak barrels, inclusive of 25 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 14-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 four months of integration prior to bottling.

WINEMAKERS' TASTING NOTES

The 2020 Rhapsody is flush with aromas of blackberry, currant, vanilla bean and mineral-graphite. The mouthfeel is plush and sumptuous, displaying ample varietal flavors of black cherry, plum, juicy boysenberry and black olive. Trailing notes of chocolate, espresso, mint and cigar box lend added complexity, while fine tannins carry into an elegant and integrated finish.



Composition

Cabernet Sauvignon 80%, Petit Verdot 9%, Malbec 5%, Merlot 4%, Cabernet Franc 2%

Appellation

Paso Robles

Sub AVAs

Willow Creek District, Templeton Gap District, Estrella District

Aging

18 Months in French Oak (25% New)

Analysis

TA 6.6 pH 3.86 Alcohol 14.5% Cases Produced 1,630