

Opolo

2020 TEMPRANILLO PASO ROBLES

This 2020 Tempranillo is an estate-grown offering that aims to celebrate and emulate the great wines from Rioja and the Iberian Peninsula, where Tempranillo has been grown since ancient times.

Vineyards

The 2020 Tempranillo comes from our adjacent Quinn East and Nichols East estate vineyards in the Estrella District, which are planted to well-drained Arbuckle alluvial soils. These two sites have proven to be ideal for growing exceptional Tempranillo. Here, amid the warmer summer temperatures of the Estrella District, our Tempranillo fruit achieves physiological ripeness at a range of 23.5 to 24 Brix, creating a richly flavored red wine with innate freshness and balanced acidity at lower alcohol levels. The result is a Paso Robles Tempranillo that is true to its Old World roots.

Winemaking

The fruit was picked on September 10 (Quinn) and September 21 (Nichols) in the wake of a mild growing season punctuated by two late-summer hot spells. After harvesting, the fruit was cold soaked for two days to induce a gentle extraction of color and flavor, then fermented over a period of seven days. Winemakers James Schreiner and Chris Rougeot specifically chose a highly kinetic yeast to ensure a quick fermentation, in order to tame the Tempranillo grape's penchant for tannic intensity. The wine was then racked to 20-percent new American oak barrels coopered by T.W. Boswell and Demptos—a barrel selection designed to foster a classic Rioja style with elegant richness and mouthfeel. After nine months of aging, the final blend was assembled, then returned to barrels for an additional eight months of integration and maturation prior to bottling.

Winemakers' Tasting Notes

The 2020 Tempranillo presents bold, earthy aromas of plum, strawberry and olallieberry with hints of vanilla. The palate is fresh, lively and beautifully textured, showing luscious flavors of wildberry and boysenberry that are buoyed by undercurrents of toasty oak. Juicy acidity and savory notes linger on a sleek, integrated finish.

Varietal Composition

Tempranillo 95%
Grenache 5%

Appellation

Paso Robles

Aging

17 Months in American oak barrels (20% new)

Analysis

TA: 6.2 g/L
pH: 3.70
Alc. by Volume: 13.8%
Cases Produced: 1,356

