

Vermentino 2019



TECHNICAL NOTES

100% Vermentino
13.0% Alcohol by Volume
1650 Cases Produced

FOOD PAIRINGS

- Nearly any fresh seafood
- Oysters on the half shell
- Aioli or Pestos
- Linguine with clam sauce
- Stir fried green vegetables

The 2019 Tablas Creek Vineyard Vermentino is Tablas Creek's eighteenth bottling of this traditional Mediterranean varietal, known principally in Sardinia, Corsica, and Northern Italy. It is also grown in the Rhone Valley (particularly Côtes de Provence) where it is known as Rolle. The Vermentino grape produces wines that are bright, clean, and crisp, with distinctive citrus character, refreshing acidity and surprising richness.

When we imported our Châteauneuf du Pape clones, our contact in the French nursery service included Vermentino because he believed it would thrive in the rocky limestone soils of Paso Robles. We have planted two small blocks of Vermentino, and it has indeed thrived here.

Our Vermentino grapes were grown on our certified organic and biodynamic estate vineyard.

The 2019 vintage began with ample rainfall the preceding winter. The wet soils delayed bud-break to a little after normal, and a cool first half of the summer delayed flowering and the ripening of our earlier varieties. Beginning the second week of July, the weather turned warm but never so warm to engage the vines' self-defense mechanism of shutting down, accelerating ripening of our later varieties and producing intense flavors. The resulting compressed harvest was completed under ideal conditions and the vintage shows both concentration and freshness, with bright acids framing ample fruit.

The Vermentino grapes were whole cluster pressed, and fermented using native yeasts in stainless steel and concrete to emphasize the minerality of the grapes. The wine was bottled in January 2020.

A clean, spicy Vermentino nose of grapefruit peel, citrus leaf, green herbs and sea spray. Briny. The palate starts notably creamy, then Vermentino's characteristic vibrant acids come out, highlighting flavors of white grapefruit, and lemongrass, with an ocean spray note that lingers on the long, zippy finish. Drink now and over the next few years.