

ROUGE

1998



AFTER YEARS OF SEARCHING, ROBERT HAAS (VINEYARD BRANDS) AND THE PERRINS (CHATEAU DE BEAUCASTEL) FOUND THE PERFECT SITE FOR THEIR NEW ESTATE IN THE STEEP AND STONY HILLS WEST OF PASO ROBLES. TABLAS CREEK VINEYARD WAS CONCEIVED WITH THE SAME VINE SELECTIONS AS BEAUCASTEL: MOURVEDRE, GRENACHE NOIR, SYRAH AND COUNOISE. ORGANIC FARMING TECHNIQUES IN THE VINEYARD ALLOW OUR GRAPES TO BE THE PUREST EXPRESSION OF THE WARM CLIMATE AND THE CALCAREOUS CLAY SOILS IN WHICH THEY GROW. FERMENTING WITH NATIVE YEASTS AND SELECTIVE BLENDING OF THE VARIETALS, AS PRACTICED BY BEAUCASTEL FOR 150 YEARS, ALLOW THE WINE TO BEST EXPRESS ITS RICH AND ELEGANT ESTHETIC QUALITIES. WE HAVE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED IN OUR EFFORT TO MAKE TABLAS CREEK VINEYARD ROUGE A FORCEFUL STATEMENT OF ITS OUTSTANDING TERROIR.



TABLAS
CREEK
VINEYARD
1998
ROUGE
GROWN & BOTTLED
ON THE ESTATE
PASO ROBLES RED WINE
750ML • ALCOHOL 13.8% BY VOLUME

Ⓔ In 1990, the Perrin family of Château de Beaucastel, in France's Châteauneuf-du-Pape and Robert Haas, wine importer with fifty years experience, founded Tablas Creek Vineyard in the steep rugged limestone-clay soils west of Paso Robles. They imported the same grape varieties as those grown on the Perrins' celebrated estate, propagated them in their nursery, and planted them in their vineyard. Ⓔ Only grapes grown on the domaine go into Tablas Creek wines. In order to produce the highest quality fruit, Tablas Creek uses no herbicides or systemic pesticides in the vineyard and the grapevines are closely pruned to reduce yields in order to intensify flavor. At harvest, the grapes are picked by hand, fermented in classic style using only native yeasts, and aged in French oak barrels. Ⓔ

44% MOURVÈDRE,
24% GRENACHE NOIR, 21% SYRAH,
11% COUNOISE
ESTATE BOTTLED BY TABLAS CREEK
VINEYARD, PASO ROBLES, CA
CONTAINS SULFITES

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION CAN BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR HEALTH. (2) DRINKING PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD CONSULT THEIR PHYSICIANS ABOUT ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION. (3) DRINKING AND DRIVING CAN BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR HEALTH. (4) DRINKING AND OPERATING MACHINERY OR ANY VEHICLE CAN BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR HEALTH.

The 1998 Tablas Creek Vineyard Rouge is an outstandingly successful wine in the unusually cool 1998 vintage. Harvest began in mid-October and finished in mid-November. Fortunately, warm and dry late Autumn weather allowed the grapes to mature to produce a deeply colored, richly fruity and elegant wine. Grapes from our imported French vines made up 65% of the harvest. They contributed intriguing complexity to its layers of bright fruit. It has a beautiful round silhouette and an inviting softness, finishing with excellent persistence.



TECHNICAL NOTES

44% Mourvèdre
24% Grenache Noir
21% Syrah
11% Counoise
13.8% alcohol by volume
2,230 cases produced

Tablas Creek Vineyard Rouge is estate bottled from vines grown on the Tablas Creek Vineyard Estate, cultivated without the use of herbicides or systemic pesticides. Only hand hoeing, cover crops, mulch, scorching and mowing are used for weed control. Natural predatory insects, “Bordeaux Mixture” and sulfur control pests and fungi.