



FROG'S LEAP

2019 HERITAGE BLEND

NAPA VALLEY

A BRIEF HISTORY

One of the coolest parts about growing grapes and making wine in California is the presence of “field blends”—wines made from several different varieties growing alongside one another in the same field. These blends are usually unique to a given site, and often consist of grapes that are so obscure as to be nearly extinct in the modern wine world. Each of these wines tell a unique story about the place in which they’re grown, and form a delicious connection to the long history of experimentation and risk-taking that are the essence of making wine in California. Our purchase of the historic Rossi vineyard in 2007 gave our family the opportunity to draw this connection. There were still a handful of historic blocks at Rossi, surrounded by the Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Sauvignon. We made a concerted effort not only to preserve those blocks, but also to augment them with new plantings of other historic varieties: Charbono, Carignane, Mourvèdre, Petite Sirah. The Heritage block sits in front of the iconic water tower at Rossi, and is a living reminder of our link to previous generations of winegrowers, as well as a testament to our belief that the greatest wines in California have always been the result of someone making good on a crazy idea.

ABOUT THE WINE

In the few short years since we began making the Heritage, the wine has quickly moved from a curiosity (“that crazy John”) to being one of our favorite wines we make every year. The Heritage is all picked on a single day, and seeing the diversity of old, stalwart varieties come together makes it one of the most exciting days of the harvest season. The largest portion of the wine is Charbono, a juicy, deeply colored variety that has a long, storied, and almost secret history in Napa—even though it’s nearly extinct in its homeland in the Savoie of France. Petite Sirah and Carignane add density and tannin. Mourvèdre and Mondeuse add spicy notes and length on the palate, while old-vine Valdiguié chips in a vibrant, juicy freshness to the fruit. The end result is a fresh, complex, welterweight red that throws the door open on what it means to be a Napa red wine—and that disappears from your glass at an alarming rate. Find out why we love this wine so much. RW



THE BLEND

- 36% Charbono, Rossi Vineyard, Rutherford
- 21% Petite Sirah, Pesch Vineyard, Rutherford
- 20% Mourvèdre, Rossi Vineyard, Rutherford
- 9% Valdiguié, Rossi Vineyard, Rutherford
- 8% Carignane, Rossi Vineyard, Rutherford
- 5% Mondeuse, Rossi Vineyard, Rutherford

STATISTICS

- harvested: September 21
- harvest chemistry: 22.6° brix, 6.0g/L total acidity, 3.55pH
- final chemistry: 13.1% alcohol, 5.2g/L total acidity, 3.66 pH,
- 0.06% residual sugar
- bottled December 1 2020
- 757 cases produced

WINEMAKERS

- John Williams
- Paula Moschetti
- Rory Williams
- Pablo Polanco

VINES

100% certified organic and dry farmed. All blocks are head-trained in the old gobelet style so classic to historic vineyards in California. Soil types are the beautiful gravelly loams of the Pleasanton and Bale soil series—most wineries would have planted Cabernet in this ground, as our bankers frequently remind us

VINEYARDIST

Frank Leeds

BALANCE, RESTRAINT AND DEEP RESPECT FOR THE NATURAL EXPRESSION OF THE VINE