



2021 BLAUFRÄNKISCH

PHILOSOPHY

LIKE PINOT NOIR, THE BLAUFRÄNKISCH GRAPE HAS A WONDERFUL TRANSPARENCY AND IS HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO ITS ENVIRONMENT. THE GOAL IS TO FIND CONSISTENCY IN EXPRESSION OF THE JOHAN TERROIR OVER MULTIPLE GRAPE VARIETIES FROM OUR SITE. OUR ESTATE BLAUFRÄNKISCH SHOWS A LIKENESS TO THE SANGUINE AND IRON MINERALITY THAT DEFINES OUR PINOT NOIR, BUT WITH MORE NERVEY ACIDITY, MORE SPICE, AND A DEEPER RED/BLACK FRUIT PROFILE.

VINTAGE NOTES

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXPERIENCED A RELATIVELY WARM WINTER DURING 2020-2021, AND MUCH OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY SAW AVERAGE TO BELOW AVERAGE WINTER PRECIPITATION. WITH A COOL AND DRY START TO THE GROWING SEASON, WE SAW BUDBREAK THE THIRD WEEK OF APRIL AND PROGRESSED THROUGH A FEW HEAT SPIKES AND THEN ONTO SOME COOL WEATHER IN LATE MAY, AND RAIN DURING FLOWERING IN JUNE. THE MOST MEMORABLE WEATHER EVENT OF 2021 WAS THE EPIC "HEAT DOME" IN LATE JUNE, WHICH FORTUNATELY DID NOT DAMAGE THE VINES OR DEVELOPING BERRIES THANKS TO THE TIMING OF THE EVENT AND CORRESPONDING PLANT GROWTH STAGE. THE REMAINDER OF THE GROWING SEASON WAS WARMER THAN AVERAGE, WITH A COOL DOWN IN BOTH AUGUST AND DURING HARVEST IN OCTOBER. IN COMPARISON TO 2020, FRUIT SET WAS CONSISTENT BUT YIELDED SMALLER CLUSTERS AND BERRIES OVERALL. 2021 WAS A WONDERFUL GROWING SEASON, WITH LOW DISEASE PRESSURE, AVERAGE YIELDS AND PERFECT CLUSTERS - WHICH LED TO CONCENTRATED, FRESH AND COMPLEX WINES ACROSS ALL CLONES AND VARIETIES AT JOHAN.

PRODUCTION NOTES

THIS BLAUFRÄNKISCH IS MADE FROM OUR ESTATE GROWN GRAPES. THE 2021 FERMENTATIONS INCLUDED A MIXED OF DESTEMMED BERRIES AND WHOLE CLUSTERS FERMENTED IN SMALL OPEN-TOP MACRO BINS, YIELDING A TOTAL OF 25% WHOLE CLUSTER IN THE FINAL BLEND. THE CAP WAS GENTLY PUNCHED DOWN TWICE EACH DAY BY FOOT DURING PRIMARY FERMENTATION. AFTER FERMENTATION, THE WINE AGED FOR A TOTAL OF 19 MONTHS IN NEUTRAL, FRENCH OAK BARRELS.

PRODUCTION: 345 CASES

ALCOHOL: 12.3%

pH: 3.45

TA: 6.9 g/L