

## 2018 RESERVE TEMPRANILLO

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*A New World expression  
of a Spanish Classic*

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**Varietal Composition:**  
Tempranillo

**Appellation:**  
Paso Robles

**Bottling Data:**  
pH: 3.89

Total Acidity: 0.59g/100mL

Alcohol: 15.0% by volume

### Philosophy

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The historic Spanish variety, Tempranillo has found a successful home in the vineyards of Paso Robles. Like its home in the Rioja and Ribera del Duero regions of Spain, Paso Robles offers hot summer days, cool nights and little rainfall. Our 2018 Reserve Tempranillo tempts you with beautifully layered fruit, exotic spice and floral highlights, and a long complex finish with firm tannins. This wine will definitely gain further complexity and balance with a few years in the cellar. It never fails to amaze with its affinity toward a wide variety of foods. ¡Que aproveche!

### Vintage Notes

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The 2018 vintage started with a cool winter with only 60% of normal precipitation, most of it occurring from late February through March. Bud break began in mid to late March. May and June alternated between warm and cool temperatures during flowering, including a few windy days that naturally reduced our yields a bit. The warm weather began in June and it was hot from mid-June through the end of July with veraison starting in the last week of July. High heat continued until mid-August causing the vines to shut down slightly, delaying ripeness and maturity, but a cooling trend later in August got things back on track. The characteristic Paso warm days and cold nights in September with the help of our calcareous soils retained natural acidity in the fruit while we waited for full ripeness and maturity and we harvested our Tempranillo fruit on September 28th with perfect balance of flavor and structure.

### Vinification

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**Fermentation:** Stainless steel closed top tank with UV43 yeast, twice daily pump overs.

**Maturation:** Barrel aged for 21 months in 100% French oak (42% new)

### Tasting Notes by Jim Gerakaris, CWE - JUSTIN Winery Sommelier

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**Appearance:** Clear, bright with a deep ruby/purple core and light rim, and moderately stained tears on the glass.

**Aroma:** Aromatic with muted, ripe strawberry roll-up and black cherry fruit, oak and baking spice barrel notes, dusty baked earth with red and purple floral notes.

**Palate:** Full ripe but muted fruit of red and black cherry, strawberry fruit on entry with oak and barrel baking spice on entry. The mid-palate shows dusty, baked clay with sustained fruit and intriguing floral accents leading into a moderately long finish with fresh acidity and firm, mouth-filling with sustained fruit, spice and oak notes. The 2018 Reserve Tempranillo is a wine that will gain complexity and balance after a few years in the bottle. Enjoy it now with a rack of lamb roast or lamb stew, or in a few years with an aged steak, or porchetta.