

OROFINO

BELEZA 2022



THE VINEYARD

THIS SIGNATURE BORDEAUX STYLE BLEND FROM OROFINO COMES FROM OUR HOME VINEYARD AND OUR NEIGHBOUR'S VINEYARD OWNED BY CHERYL AND LEE HENSBEE. BOTH VINEYARDS SIT ON THE CAWSTON BENCH. THE VINES RANGE FROM 14 YEARS OLD TO 32 YEARS OLD. SMALL BLOCKS OF EACH OF THE BORDEAUX VARIETALS EXIST ON EACH SITE ON BOTH SELF-ROOTED AND GRAFTED VINES. BOTH OUR 6 ACRE PROPERTY AND THE HENSBEE VINEYARD HAVE NICE RICH SANDY LOAM SOIL FOR 2 TO 6 FEET IN DEPTH DEPENDING ON WHICH PART OF THE VINEYARD YOU ARE IN. THIS SITS ON TOP OF WHAT SEEMS TO BE ENDLESS GRAVEL AND/OR RIVER ROCK. THE RESULT IS A MODERATELY VIGOROUS SITE WITH GREAT DRAINAGE. THERE IS AN INTERESTING SEAM OF LESS FERTILE SOIL THAT RUNS THROUGH PARTS OF THE VINEYARDS THAT MAKES NOTICEABLY DIFFERENT CONDITIONS FOR THE VINES.

THE VINTAGE

2022 WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL GROWING SEASON. IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL CONSISTENT SUMMER FOLLOWED BY A LONG SUNNY AUTUMN. GRAPES WERE ABLE TO FULLY RIPEN AND THE EXTRA WORK IN THE VINEYARD MEANT PHENOLICS KEPT UP WITH SUGAR LEVELS.

WINEMAKING NOTES

THE GRAPES WERE HAND HARVESTED AND THEN GENTLY DESTEMMED AND LIGHTLY CRUSHED INTO ONE TON OPEN TOP FERMENTERS WHERE THEY WERE HAND PUNCHED 2 TIMES PER DAY UNTIL COMPLETION OF FERMENTATION. THE WINE WAS THEN PRESSED STRAIGHT TO NEW, AND OLDER FRENCH BARRIQUES. EACH VARIETAL LOT WAS KEPT SEPARATE AND THEN AGED CAREFULLY FOR 20 MONTHS BEFORE BLENDING, RACKING AND BOTTLING (UNFILTERED). ONLY THE BEST BARRELS WERE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL BLEND. NO FINING WAS USED. MINIMAL INTERVENTION IS THE KEY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS WINE. IT IS A TRUE REFLECTION OF OUR TERROIR. THE BLEND INCLUDES MERLOT, CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC AND PETIT VERDOT.

TECHNICAL STUFF

43% MERLOT 31% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

13% CABERNET FRANC 13% PETIT VERDOT

TA: 6.3 G/L. PH 3.6 RS: 2.0 G/L. ALC: 14.6%

TASTING NOTES

RICH BLACK FRUITS MIXED WITH SPICY NOTES AND CLASSIC SIMILKAMEEN MINERALITY. ALWAYS UNFINED AND UNFILTERED TO BEST SHOW OFF OUR TERROIR. THIS IS CLASSIC SIMILKAMEEN WITH DUSTY TANNINS AND AN ELEGANT, LONG FINISH. DRINKABLE NOW BUT WILL AGE GRACEFULLY. DRINK 2026-2040