



Truchard Vineyards

2004 Tempranillo

- Vintage:** The 2004 vintage was nearly identical to the exceptional 2003 harvest. A dry spring with unusually high temperatures affected berry set and reduced yields by about 15%. Warmer summer temperatures easily ripened the small crop and led to an early harvest. 2004 produced big, powerful wines with rich aromas, ripe flavors, and excellent structure.
- Vineyard:** Tempranillo is the noble grape of Spain. It is the predominant varietal in the wines from the famous Rioja region, where it is sometimes blended with Garnacha (Grenache), Graciano, and Mazuelo (Carignan). In 1998 two acres of Tempranillo were planted on an isolated knoll in the southern part of the Truchard Estate Vineyard. The vines grow in volcanic soils and benefit from the cool Carneros temperatures. Tempranillo makes a unique, spicy wine, with deep purple color, lush texture, and firm acidity. It is a wonderful food wine.
- Harvest:** October 7 • 24.5 °Brix • 3.70 pH • 7.1 g/L TA
- Winemaking:** The fruit was gently destemmed and crushed into an open top fermenter with approximately 20% whole berries. The tank was inoculated with Pasteur Red yeast and punched down twice daily throughout the fermentation. The temperature peaked at 88° F. After 14 days of maceration, the lot was pressed and allowed to settle in tank before going to barrel. The wine was aged for 10 months in both French (85%) and American (15%) oak; 25% of these barrels were new. The wine was racked only one time before being bottled in August 2005. This wine is 100% Tempranillo. It is very approachable right now, but will reward careful cellaring for the next 7 - 10 years.
- Wine Analysis:** 14.1% alcohol • 3.83 pH • 6.4 g/l TA
- Tasting Notes:** An exotic nose of ripe plum, black cherry, and cassis; accented with notes of tea, tobacco, and cedar. The mouth is smooth - filled with flavors of red currants, rhubarb, and sweet vanilla. Chalky tannins focus the palate and provide a delicate finish of red fruit, mineral and spice.
- Release Date:** February 1, 2008
Cases Produced: 851 cases
Bottle Price: \$25.00