Rosé  2019

Estate Bottled

Kelsey Bench - Lake County

Grown at 1450’ elevation on red, obsidian-strewn volcanic soil resulting from Mt. Konocti’s violent upheaval in the Mayacamas runout, our 2019 rosé combines bright fruit and a savory palate into a spicy porch-pounding machine.

**Vineyard:** All Sangiovese planted in 2011, Primitivo planted in 2004. The Sangiovese block was intentionally managed for rosé with extra shading and heavier crop load to capture acidity.

**Winemaking:** The Sangiovese was harvested at 13.5% abv because pear season went late and we couldn’t get pickers, so a little riper than planned. After destemming the grapes were all moved manually by bucket to be direct pressed in our wood basket press as a dedicated rosé. The Primitivo was treated the same. Stems were added back for a couple days in tea bag form to add an herbal phenolic element. We also wanted to avoid the vapid bubblegum flavors that ripe Sangiovese can have. We do not rush to bottle.

**Vintage:** 2019. Lots of rain, more than double “normal average” with an inch falling in June! It even rained lightly three times before the end of the season, practically Tuscan. July and August were very hot, taking us from two weeks late to on time in those two months. The temperature rollercoaster was a good thing in macro however, even though 10 days without electricity at the winery was challenging. Cold nights came fast after the hot early season. From mid-September on things were gloriously mild with cold nights and days kissing 85F over and over again. A year to pick on acidity in the end.

**Label Image:** From *The Journey of the Fortunate* *Prince* in 1610 we see full alchemical drama in play. The eagle is Mercury, linking heaven and earth while the lion (Sulphur) with severed paws is the living axiom to dissolve the fixed and coagulate the volatile. Burning trees, ouroboric dragons, old men eating the moon, a metallic tree stump being revivified by the fountain of youth, an eternal hourglass demanding focused patience while all things are encased in the myrtle tree of love. All these things are connected by a strong branch growing from metals below to life above. Clearly French alchemy in fine form.



**80% Sangiovese**

**20% Primitivo**

Fermented in stainless with one aerative racking back to the stainless tank

racked once, no filtering

bottled by hand in

June

pH 3.34

TA 6.7gm/l

13.7% abv

90 cases produced

$25 MSRP