



THE STEVEN KENT WINERY
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2014 “TAOS PUEBLO” GRENACHE LIVERMORE VALLEY

HARVEST NOTES

The 2014 harvest in the Livermore Valley was the third in a string of seasons unparalleled in their near perfection of weather and quality of fruit. These three years were characterized by drought and temperate weather (especially in October when fruit was being harvested). 2014 (like '12 and '13) not only succeeded in respect to quality, but in a wonderfully synergistic fashion, the vintage also produced significantly above-average quantity of fruit as well. There being a karmic price to pay for all things, however, the lack of rainfall over these years did lead to some drought-relation water quality challenges in the vineyard – as lowered water tables caused an increased concentration of dissolved minerals that raised soil pH levels and led to the early senescence of canopy and the concomitant lowering of fruit ripeness levels in certain blocks.

WINEMAKER NOTES

We have been making Grenache from the Livermore Valley since the mid-2000s. Grenache is one of the world's mostly widely planted red grapes, making fantastic wines on several continents. Whether alone or with traditional blending partners, Mourvedre and Syrah, Grenache is a great partner to most hearty cuisines.

TASTING NOTES

A blend of 95% Grenache and 5% Barbera harvested from the several vineyards in the Livermore Valley, this wine looks to the Rhône region of the south of France for inspiration. Warm aromas of wild strawberry, red plum, and toasty oak give this wine a rich perfume. On entry, *Taos Pueblo* shows a richness of fruit flavor and pleasing viscosity. The wine picks up great pace, though, in the mid-palate, where fresh fruit and lovely acidity dominate the richness of fruit. On the finish, there is an elegance of structure with a hint of oak and tannin that undergird the wine's full fruit but which does not diminish the sense of liveliness brought about its abundant acidity. This is a wine to drink while young to preserve the fruit that is the hallmark of this offering.

VINEYARD SOURCE(S)

95% Grenache, 5% Barbera harvested from various vineyards in the Livermore Valley.

HARVEST DATA

October 1 - 15, 2014 | pH 3.60 | TA .60 | Alcohol 15.3%

FERMENTATION

The fruit for both varietals was fermented separately in 1.7-ton open-top fermenters. After cold soaking and primary fermentation, both wines went through extended maceration for 7-14 days before being pressed.

COOPERAGE

This wine was aged for about 18 months in 100% second use French oak.

CASES PRODUCED

121 cases

RELEASE DATE

March 4, 2017

ARTIST

“Taos Pueblo” is an original watercolor painted by Connie Weddell. Connie is the late mother of our good friend, Doug Weddell. She was a prolific painter but her favorite subjects were the pueblos and landscapes of New Mexico where she lived for many years. She very much enjoyed travelling across the state to visit different areas and get inspiration for her artwork.

