



# TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

## 2018 TEMPRANILLO



**Vintage:** The 2018 vintage will be remembered as nearly perfect. A cold winter with average rainfall made for a late bud-break. Ideal spring weather allowed for a heavy set. Mild conditions throughout summer and fall allowed the crop to slowly ripen and develop maximum flavor. The wines of 2018 are powerful but elegant; with firm acidity and beautiful balance. This could be the vintage of the decade!

**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 27 • 24.4 °Brix • 3.75 pH • 6.8 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 2019. This wine is 100% Tempranillo. It is approachable right now, but will reward careful cellaring for the next 10 - 12 years.

**Wine Analysis:** 14.2% alcohol • 3.87 pH • 6.1 g/l TA

**Tasting Notes:** A complex nose of ripe plum, black cherry, and cassis with notes of cedar and tobacco. The mouth is layered with flavors of red currants, boysenberry, and sweet vanilla. Chalky tannins focus the palate and provide a delicate finish of red fruit, mineral and spice.

**Release Date:** July 6th, 2022

**Cases Produced:** 201 cases

