

# BIANCHI

## 2018 RESERVE CABERNET FRANC

Cabernet Franc is a dark skinned French varietal most famously known as the third grape of Bordeaux, and can be found in many of the world's top Bordeaux Blend wines. As a singular varietal, it is usually light to medium bodied, and often shows vegetal characteristics (most notably green bell peppers) especially when the grapes are harvested early. As a parental figure to Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc delivers a slightly softer expression of red fruits and smokey tannins.

Our 2018 Reserve Cabernet Franc is a beautiful ruby color, medium in body, and loaded with flavors of lush strawberries and elegant spices. We avoid an intense amount of green or vegetal characteristics in this wine by hand-harvesting when the grapes are at an elevated ripeness. "Picking ripe" gives the wine a softer and silkier texture and flavor profile. The grapes go through an extended maceration over the course of two weeks to build structure and flavor, before going straight from the press to the barrels after primary fermentation. It is aged in those same new French Oak barrels for 24 months before reaching its peak, and going into the bottle.

### VINEYARD

This elegant 2018 Reserve Cabernet Franc began its journey in Plummer Vineyard in the Estrella sub-district of Paso Robles. This sub-district is located at the very top of the Paso Robles AVA with varied flat and hilly terrain, warm days and cool nights, and well draining alluvial soils, making it an excellent growing region for premium grapes. Plummer Vineyard was established in 2002 by Joe Plummer, a notoriously meticulous farmer. This well monitored, unique vineyard incorporates a tea compost in the soil which is full of macro and micronutrients for the plants to absorb. It is also drip-irrigated like our own vineyards, allowing for the growth of strong, healthy vines.

### TASTING & PAIRING

*Appearance: Deep crimson*

*Aroma: New leather, cigar box, eucalyptus*

*Flavor: Bing cherries, red fruit, cherry cola, strawberries, smoke, fine tannins*

This bright and lively 2018 Cabernet Franc shows layers and depth, even at a relatively young age. Scents of new leather and cigar box are gently balanced by distinctive hints of fresh eucalyptus. On the palate, red fruit, bing cherries, cola and smoke are bound beautifully together by fine, silky tannins. This wine begs for tender short ribs, hearty winter stews or classically prepared rack of lamb.



**Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Franc  
**Aging:** 100% New French Oak | 24 months  
**Clone:** Clone 11  
**Vineyard:** Plummer Vineyard  
**Appellation:** Paso Robles | Estrella District  
**R/S:** 0.04  
**Acidity:** 3.8pH | 0.65 TA  
**ABV:** 14.8%  
**Production:** 179 cases  
**Harvest Date:** 10/18/18  
**Bottling Date:** 11/10/20

