

2020 Sonoma County Venus Roussanne / Viognier

The hallmark characteristic of the Bennett Valley Roussanne used in this blend is extremely slow ripening, with harvests consistently falling into mid-October. We attribute the intensity on the nose to the fruit's time on the vine, maturing slowly, with complex flavors evolving at lower than normal equilibrium.

Since 2003, the Roussanne for this elegant blend has come from two distinct blocks from Dry Stack Vineyard, both planted exclusively for Donelan Family Wines. 30% of the blend comes from a small, quarter acre block we refer to as The Rocky Block with the balance of the Roussanne coming from an East-facing slope. The power and weighty mouthfeel combined wih the fresh stone fruit from the sloped block make for a well balanced wine.

Honeydew melon husk and dreamsicle electrify the nose on the 2020 Venus. Chamomile blossom, wet wool, and savory salinity join in with racy acidity and a palate coated with pineapple, underripe peaches, and wet rocky earth. This wine contains multitudes of flavor and personality.

Cellar Notes:

Percentage New Oak Composition

None 95% Roussanne, 5% Viognier

Barrel Aging Alcohol
10 months 14.4%

Bottling DateProduction
July 2021
230 cases

~Native Ferment/Native ML Clones
Suitecase