

# TINTO REY

2016  
VERDEJO



**BLEND:** 100% Verdejo

**VINEYARDS:**

Matchbook Vineyards, Estate Bottled

**FERMENTATION:**

100% barrel fermentation

**BARREL AGING:**

8 months in French neutral barrels

**APPELLATION:** Dunnigan Hills

**FARMING:** Hand harvested

**TA:** 5.75 **PH:** 3.48

**ALCOHOL:** 14.2%

**PRODUCTION:** 456 cases

## WINE

We source this Spanish white from a tiny half-acre vineyard planted at the entrance to our winery. The 2016 Verdejo has aromas of citrus fruit and orange blossom with a hint of flinty minerality. On the palate the Tinto Rey Verdejo is bright and refreshing with a lovely grapefruit character. The unique step of barrel aging this wine in French neutral oak barrels makes it silky on the palate with well integrated flavors. Pair this lovely white wine with grilled prawns, fresh oysters or a fresh summer salad.

## STORY

Tinto Rey means Red King and is the name of our Spanish-centric wine brand. The Dunnigan Hills appellation is uniquely suited for grapes that thrive in a Mediterranean climate. Warm days, gravelly soil, little rainfall; these are ideal conditions for Tempranillo, Tannat, Graciano and Verdejo. The spicy, full-flavored Tinto Rey wines truly showcase the distinctive terroir of our vineyards.

## CELLAR

The Verdejo is always the first thing we pick each harvest. At sunrise on August 11, 2016, we hand-picked the Verdejo, whole-cluster pressed the grapes and moved the juice into neutral barrels for fermentation. Following fermentation the wine was aged eight months in neutral French oak barrels. We stirred the lees during the aging process to enhance the wine's richness. Here in the US, Verdejo is hard to come by, but this Spanish varietal thrives in the Dunnigan Hills terroir.

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