



— COMBE — PET'NAT TROUSSEAU

Stolpman Vineyards
Ballard Canyon
2018



BACKGROUND

Pete Stolpman's esoteric collaboration is labeled "Combe" referring to the French word for a small sheltered valley within a vineyard.

Sometime around 2010, Pete became convinced of the great potential for the pale red Trousseau grape on the Limestone soils of Stolpman Vineyards. We decided to make a light red Trousseau and a Trousseau Pet'Nat (the only Pet'Nat of Trousseau in the world). The first vintage for the Trousseau wines was 2014, and we now have 3.5 acres planted to the varietal. Next, we decided to plant Chenin Blanc, and our 1.5 acres of Chenin began producing in 2016. 2019 will mark the first production of a half-acre each of Gamay and Mondeuse.

We continue to propagate Poulsard and Savagnin and we hope to start seeing fruit within a few years.



TECH

VINEYARD COMPONENTS Block 5 Trousseau	COOPERAGES & ELEVAGE Disgorged in March, re-crown-capped
VARIETAL BLEND 100% Trousseau	RELEASE DATE May 2019
VINIFICATION crushed then very gently pressed	HARVEST DATE August 31, 2018
FINAL ANALYSIS alcohol: 10.5%	TOTAL PRODUCTION 120 cases
VATTING/FERMENTATION Stainless Steel until 1.2 Brix, then bottled and sealed under crown-cap	



TASTING & TECH

AT THE WINERY

The first fruit to be harvested from the vineyard and the only pick in August – the fruit was transferred overnight up to Michael Cruse' sparkling facility in Petaluma. The wine fermented towards dryness and was placed into bottle under crown-cap with a touch of natural sugar remaining. The fermentation that finished in bottle creates the bubble.

An important note, Michael disgorges each bottle, removing any solid yeast material and lees from the bottle, and refills it – prior to bottling. This step ensures a consistent and elegant pressure and head.

SENSORY

A firm yet fine mousse kissed with subtle lemon citrus and mango sorbet. The wine's pale straw color and Champagne-like Mousse make it hard to believe these grapes were picked from the same vines as the Trousseau Red, and only a week earlier. While totally unique to the new world, this bubbly deliciously fits the bill for any occasion demanding a sparkling wine.