

OCTOBER 2019

ALL ABOUT OLIVER ...



Oliver Tensley

HARVEST 2018

2018 was a great vintage. We had above normal rain totals for the year, but it all came at the perfect time. It started just after the vines went dormant, and ended in early spring just before bud break. The wines have great color and power, but are actually light on their feet due to their fresh acidity. Summer and harvest were very cool, which gave the grapes extra time to hang and really get ripe. We didn't experience any heat spikes, which helped retain that fresh acidity.



2019 HARVEST

2019 is gearing up to be pretty similar, with the exception that the spring was a little cooler with later rains. That has put us behind a week or two. The summer has been pretty mild. We're looking forward to starting harvest very soon in our new facility on Alisos Canyon Road, which is basically coming full circle for us. Our first vintage in 1998 was from Thompson, which is located on Alisos Canyon Road.

▶ WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS ◀

2018 OGT Syrah

This blend is named for our son, Oliver Gunnar Tensley, and really tells the story of Tensley. A blend of 25% Tensley Vineyard Syrah, 50% Colson Canyon Syrah, and 25% Thompson Syrah, each of these vineyards has a significant story for us. In 2011 we were able to buy Tensley Vineyard, our very first vineyard, in which Oliver planted the very first vine. We started working with Colson back in 2000. From that very first vintage we dreamed of buying it. That dream came true for us in 2016. As for Thompson, we launched the Tensley brand with Thompson fruit in 1998. The grapes from these very different and very special vineyards always come together beautifully in the glass, delivering decadent and dark notes of blackberries, chocolate and pepper lifted by red fruit acidity and spices. The finish is long, earthy and lush. This wine is approachable now, but will also age well over the next 10 to 12 years.

Price: \$95.00

Cellar Club Price: \$80.75

Cases Produced: 250

2018 BMT Syrah

This year's BMT (named for our niece, Bailey Michelle Tensley) is once again made up of 50% Rodney's Vineyard Syrah, 25% Colson Canyon Syrah and 25% Colson Canyon Grenache. 2018 was a great vintage for us, one of Joey's favorites. It was a cool year and we were able to have a late harvest that gave the grapes more hang time and more intensity. The Colson vineyard brings big notes of black fruits, chocolate and bacon to this blend. The Syrah we sourced from Rodney's absolutely delivers as well. It comes from old vines and lends earth and structure. Enjoy this BMT now or age it over the next ten years.

Price: \$95.00

Cellar Club Price: \$80.75

Cases Produced: 248



A NEW SYRAH JOINS OUR LINEUP!

Please welcome the 2018 Sta. Rita Hills blend. After years of making Syrah from the Turner Vineyard in the Sta. Rita Hills appellation, we've become big fans of Syrah grown in sandy soils in cooler climates. There are a lot of fun things about this wine. The flavors are savory, peppery, and fruity at the same time. The color is almost black. It's medium-bodied with a solid structure that can easily age for ten years. This is a great food wine with a lifted acidity that makes it easy to pair with many dishes.

Price: \$34.00

Cellar Club Price: \$28.90

Cases Produced: 700

ALL ABOUT BAILEY



As a new Mom, news about Bailey is pretty much news about her son, Weston. Weston just had his first birthday! To quote her, "It went by so fast!" I believe I just said that about sixteen-year-old Oliver! To further quote her, "Weston is so much fun! Being a Mom is the best!" I could not agree more.

Tyler, Bailey and Weston

TENSLEY PHOTO PAGE

