



TOURIGA NACIONAL 2021

VARIETY:	100% TOURIGA NACIONAL
PRODUCTION:	297 cases
ALC./VOL.:	14.7%
OTHER:	pH 3.79, TA: 6.0 g/L, RS: 1.7 g/L
CSPC:	+ 30841

THE GRAPES

Touriga Nacional is a red grape variety that is best known for being grown in the Douro and Dão region of Portugal. Often used in blends to make port, it has also gained a considerable amount of popularity in the making of table wines. This low yielding variety produces very few bunches of small grapes. The resulting skin-to-pulp ratio makes for well-structured, aromatic wines. To the best of our knowledge, Moon Curser is the only producer in British Columbia making table wine from this unique grape variety.

VINTAGE REPORT

In 2021 spring arrived a little later than usual in Osoyoos, with strong winds keeping the colder weather around for longer than anticipated. Mid-April saw the start of warmer weather, with temperatures reaching 20°C. Bud break took place around that time, signifying the true start to the Osoyoos growing season. Early June brought rain, while July brought extreme heat with temperatures peaking at 45°C. The high heats were capped off with the threat of forest fires which burned just north of the Osoyoos East Bench. This challenging growing season was capped off by typical (and welcomed) warm days and cool nights throughout the harvest months of September and October, with few rainy days delaying the picking schedule towards the end. The yields averaged slightly higher than expected, with harmonious development of physiological and flavour ripeness across the varieties.

VINEYARD

- Osoyoos East Bench, Moon Curser Vineyard
- Class 1 vineyard site, south-west aspect/slope.
- Soil: loamy sand, with silica and granite.
- Harvest date: October 30th, 2021
- Brix at harvest: 23.1 Brix

WINEMAKING

- Grapes hand-picked and sorted in the vineyard, then sorted again prior to destemming and pumping through to fermenters. No crushing.
- Warm red fermentation kept at approx. 25 °C in a variable capacity 5,000 L stainless steel fermenter.
- Gentle pumpovers three times daily.
- Cooperage: 225 L barrels; Seguin Moreau and François Frères. 33% new French oak, remainder - neutral barrels.
- Malolactic Fermentation: YES, in tank.
- Filtered: YES
- Fined: NO
- Vegan: YES
- Bottled: March 2023

TASTING NOTES

A consistent star in the Moon Curser portfolio, our 2021 Touriga Nacional continues to shine bright. One of the most compelling red wines you will likely ever taste, the wine comes off the vine perfectly year after year, and is the perfect example of why low intervention winemaking leads to best possible wines. The 2021 Touriga Nacional is a medium to full-bodied red wine, with a deep ruby colour in the glass. Intoxicating notes of rosemary, black olive, fig and tarragon on the nose invite you in, while well-integrated tannins, supple structure and fresh acidity provide the perfect backdrop for black cherry, fennel, cedar and oregano on the palate. This is a captivating wine that will shine in any tasting lineup. While enjoyable now, our 2021 Touriga Nacional will reward those with the patience to cellar through 2028 - 2030. The wine would pair best with meats (including a lamb tagine, grilled octopus), or even a vegetable casserole.

