



2022 Los Carneros Vermentino, Skin-Fermented, Cressida Vineyard

- 100% Vermentino.
- 100% skin-macerated (ten days on skins).
- Native yeast and organically farmed.
- The pH is 3.48, the TA is 7.2 g/l, and the alcohol is 13.0%. 242 cases produced.

At Matthiasson we made one of the first "orange wines" in California, from Ribolla Gialla, back in 2008. We have a lot of experience both fermenting and drinking orange wines, and we have some opinions as well. We love our orange wines savory and textured, complex, but smooth and silky to contrast with the saltiness. It takes the right grape for an orange wine. We thought that our Cressida Vermentino fit the bill — with flavors of citrus, sage, celery salt, and a tangy minerality, we had to ferment some on the skins and age it.

For the richest and most unctuous texture we chose the ripest vines at the top of the hill for the skin maceration. To pick up all the gorgeous texture and minerality of an orange wine we destemmed and crushed the berries. Then we fermented it dry, pressed it into neutral oak, aged it for 18 months, then another year in the bottle.

If you love salty wines with texture and depth, this is your wine. Think rich summery mediterranean food: grilled fish, salty cheese, herbal pasta, olives, beans with glugs of olive oil and crusty bread, tinned fish and crackers on a warm summer evening in the back yard.

The Vineyard:

We purchased the Cressida Vineyard along with our partners Perry Tam and Laura Yip in 2022. It is planted along the spine of a ridgetop in the upper section of Los Carneros, overlooking the Bay, with the San Francisco skyline clearly visible across the water. It receives the perfect balance of warm sun and cooling Bay winds, straight off the Pacific and through the Golden Gate. The soils are shale from an ancient inland sea — the vineyard is the foot of the Mayacamas, with the Cressida Vineyard at the base and Mt. Veeder at the top. Raptors hover overhead, riding the winds thrust up as the Bay breezes meet the Cressida hillside.