

2011
MACDONALD VINEYARD
BLAUFRÄNKISCH
OLD MISSION PENINSULA, MICHIGAN

BLAUFRÄNKISCH
MacDonald Vineyard
Old Mission Peninsula

A LEFT FOOT CHARLEY WINE

THE VINEYARD:

This half-acre vineyard was planted in 2001.

Blaufränkisch grows huge leaves and giant clusters. We spaced the vines at 6 feet (which is wide around here) to give them room to move. The same principles of sunlight and balanced crop apply but these are the Amazons of the grapevine world. The ripening cycle is interesting because sugars rise quickly, but it takes weeks of seemingly stalled ripening to really achieve the flavors we seek. This can be a challenge in our cool ripening seasons. We only bottle this variety when the conditions are perfect for a single varietal release wine.

MACDONALD VINEYARD

APPELLATION Old Mission Peninsula

VARIETIES: Pinot Gris, Blaufränkisch

ACREAGE: 1

YEAR PLANTED: 2001

GROWN BY: Bill and Margaret MacDonald

THE SHORT VERSION:

Black pepper, blueberry, light roasted coffee, roasted chestnuts

THE LONG VERSION:

Medium bodied, elegant reds get no respect these days. In our quest for power we have been misled to the edges of extraction.

Not so with Blaufränkisch. The grapevine evolved to become one of the grapes of power not because of its muscle but from its ability to light up many dormant sensations. Like light roasted coffee, the wine has depth. It displays airy fruit, moving earth tones, and impressionable warmth. Garnet in color, layered in aroma, and intriguing in length, this wine contests modern notions of red wine basics. It brings out the classic elements that made red wine desirable in the first place.

HUNGRY? TRY THESE IDEAS:

Duck, salmon, Kalamata olives, feta cheese, red peppers, sweet potatoes, caramelized onions

WINE GEEK TECHNO SPEAK:

RESIDUAL SUGAR: 2 g/l

PH: 3.65

TITRATABLE ACIDITY: 5.5 g/l

ALCOHOL: 12.5%

CASES PRODUCED: 170

SOILS: Sandy loam

FERMENTED & AGED: 9 months in French Oak barrels

AGING WINDOW: 3-5 years

LEFT FOOT CHARLEY
WINE & HARD CIDER

806 Red Drive #100 Traverse City, MI 49684 231.995.0500 leftfootcharley.com