



2017 BLANC DE NOIRS

Since 1985 our méthode champenoise wines receive the utmost care from hand harvesting to a minimum of four years aging in bottle in our historic underground cellar. We were the first Finger Lakes producer to make a méthode champenoise sparkling wine with vinifera grapes.



ACCOLADES

VARIETY:	100% Pinot Noir.
VINEYARD:	100% Keuka Estate.
VINIFICATION:	Whole Cluster Direct Press.
VESSEL:	Stainless Steel. Temperature Controlled.
FERMENTATION:	Only Cuvée Press Used. 5% Barrel Fermented.
ÉLEVAGE:	Méthode Champenoise. 36 Months Minimum.
DRYNESS:	Dry. 0.8% Residual Sugar.
ANALYSIS:	11% Alc, 10.2 g/L TA, 8 g/L RS, 2.98 pH.
PRODUCTION:	374 Cases.

METHOD

The grapes were hand-picked into small 40kg crates with careful bunch selection in the vineyard. The whole cluster grapes were immediately pressed. From harvest to pressing, extreme care is used in handling the grapes to avoid any excessive crushing or bruising. Only the first most delicate pressing, called the Cuvée, is used. 5% of the wine is barrel fermented. The base wine was bottled the following Spring after harvest.

Secondary fermentation took place in bottle as per the traditional Méthode Champenoise. The wine was left in bottle with the lees for a minimum of 36 months in the underground cellar at Chateau Frank. Each bottle is individually disgorged, corked, crowned, and labeled by hand. The month of disgorgement is listed on the back of each bottle.

VINEYARD

The grapes for our sparkling wines are located on separate plots on our Keuka Estate vineyards. These vineyards were planted by Willy Frank in 1980 with the sole purpose of producing sparkling wines.

THE WINE

Delicate aromas of freshly baked bread, Asian pear, fresh strawberries, baked red apple, white flowers, and fresh strawberries. Leading with a fine mousse, the mouthfeel is tense and profound with creamy lees, strawberry, and red cherry. A touch of tannin balances the acidity on the sophisticated finish.

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DR. KONSTANTIN FRANK WINERY
9749 MIDDLE ROAD. HAMMONDSPORT, NY 14840 WWW.DRFANKWINES.COM