



2018 SAPERAVI

Our Reserve wines emphasize their uniqueness featuring superior vineyard sites, distinct winemaking techniques, and diverse grape varieties.



ACCOLADES

VINEYARD:	95% Seneca Estate, 5% Keuka Estate.
VINIFICATION:	De-stemmed. Several Day Cold Soak.
VESSEL:	Open-Top Stainless Steel. Temperature Controlled.
FERMENTATION:	Traditional. 3 Times Daily Manual Punchdowns.
ÉLEVAGE:	16 Months 20% New, 80% 2-4 Year Old French Oak.
ANALYSIS:	13% Alc, 0.5 g/L R.S., 3.60 pH, 6.9 g/L TA.

VARIETY

Saperavi is an ancient grape variety native to the country of Georgia. Known as a teinturier grape variety, Saperavi is one of the few red grapes that has colored flesh with very dark skins, producing deeply colored wine. Its name means “paint, dye, give color” in Georgian. Saperavi is a wonderful wine for aging due to its naturally high acidity.

VINTAGE

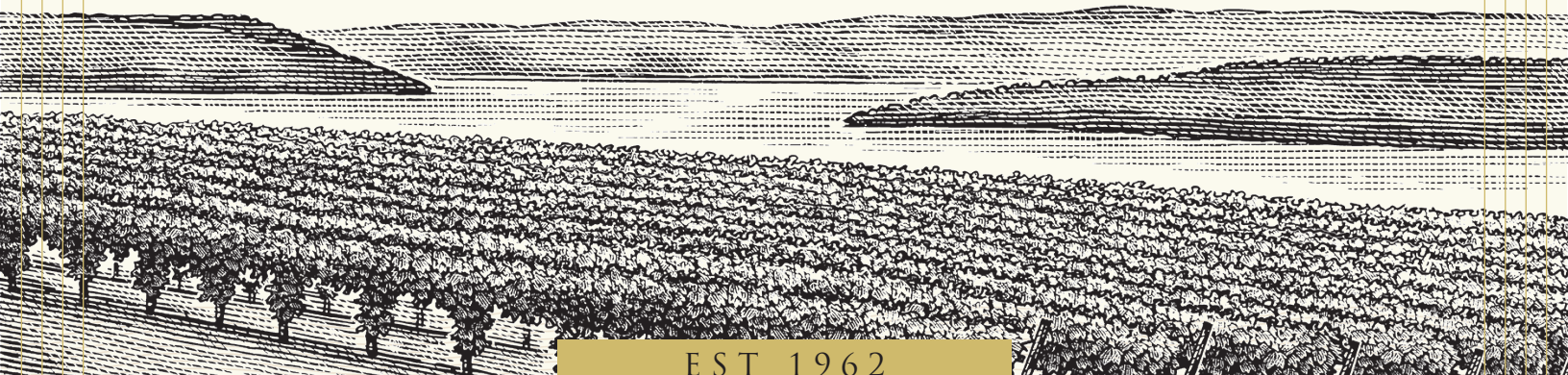
The 2018 vintage showed how much weather conditions can change during the growing season. Budbreak and flowering were a bit late, beginning in June. July recorded some of the hottest and driest days in the Finger Lakes, perfect conditions for ripening. Several weeks of rain in September forced us to be very selective in the vineyard. Several tries through the vineyard dropping poor fruit before harvesting only the best quality bunches. Harvest finished earlier than normal.

VINEYARD

Majority of the grapes come from our estate vineyards on Seneca Lake where the warmer sites give us riper fruit aromas and flavors. These vineyards were planted in 2010 and 2016 from original cuttings from Dr. Konstantin’s first plantings in the early 1960’s. The Banana Belt is a portion of land on the east side of Seneca Lake that receives the greatest amount of sun coupled with a location that is nearest the deepest parts of Seneca Lake, thereby having a greater impact on temperature. A small portion of the blend contains grapes from Dr. Konstantin’s original plantings from our Keuka Lake vineyard that are near 60 years old.

THE WINE

Vibrant violet in color with pronounced notes of plum, black cherry, earth, cedar, and smoke. Full-bodied with polished tannins. Juicy acidity lifts the flavors on the long finish.



EST 1962

DR. KONSTANTIN FRANK WINERY

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