



B. Kosuge Wines

2018 "El Galpon" Carneros Pinot Noir

The 2018 El Galpon is inspired by Bourgogne Passetoutgrains, a mix of Pinot Noir and Gamay that is the lesser known red wine of Burgundy. Gamay was once widely planted in Burgundy before being exiled many years ago to its current home in Beaujolais in favor of the more "noble" Pinot Noir. The few vines that remain are blended—often cofermented—with Pinot Noir into what qualifies in Burgundy as a "fun wine:" Passetoutgrains, which roughly translated means "all grapes allowed." In California, Gamay isn't exactly in exile but it is not very widely planted, and there are no restrictions on its use in any of the appellations. At The Shop, the Gamay grows side by side with the Pinot Noir, and so I blend a small amount into the all concrete aged Pinot Noir to give it a little lift and to distinguish it from The Shop, which is 100% Pinot Noir. This results in a super lively and very charming red wine—just the kind of wine that I like to drink myself!

The 2018 El Galpon as always is taken from the concrete aged portion of The Shop blend, with 17% Gamay added to give it lift and levity. Medium red, juicy, perfumed and just plain delicious, the 2018 El Galpon is not as voluptuous as the 2017 but it is completely true to the goal of making a wine that is fresh and fun to drink. Not too serious, just tasty.

\$30 a bottle.