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2017 Procedo Credente

Red Willow Vineyard, Columbia Valley AVA

WINEMAKER NOTE

The 2017 Procedo Credente is our annual nod to the Great Super Tuscan wines of the old world, and an acknowledgement of the forethought and ingenuity of the Sauer Family of Red Willow Vineyard. The core of this wine is a compilation of Grosso and Piccolo clone Sangiovese that can be traced back to the recommendation of the great Dr. Walter Clore and his experimental "college plot" planted back in 1973. The supporting cast of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc lend a dark fruited richness and herbaceous balance to a wine built for heartier cuisine.

VARIETALS: Sangiovese (52%), Merlot (21%), Cabernet Sauvignon (20%), Cabernet Franc (7%)

PRODUCTION: 233 cases

ALCOHOL: 14.7%

PROFILE

Typically labeled as Rossos or Tuscanos in their native Italy, these Tuscan blends have a tendency to take Sangiovese into the dark side. Wafting aromatics of plum and cassis spiral around Bing cherry, candied cinnamon red hots and a hint of crushed violet. Tart red flavors of Rainier cherry entwined in a cedar box and a touch of sweet vanilla take the palate on a journey back and forth through the old and new worlds of Italian wine. Only in the finish do the two meet, as the ancient volcanic minerality of Red Willow streaks through the crushed gravel of Tuscany culminating into one of the most incredible food wines in the Lady Hill wine portfolio.

Look to feature this wine over the next 10 years alongside a slightly richer fair than standalone Sangiovese. To begin the meal, look to your local cheese monger to sort through their best hard dry cheeses and cured salami. For the main course, spend a day slow cooking braised short ribs, Osso buco or a lush, mushroom polenta with fresh parmesan, or go vegetarian by working with a Cannellini bean soup and a side of grilled rapini.

PAIRING

Hard dry cheese, cured salami, Osso buco, mushroom polenta, Cannellini bean soup.