La Storia

# Lions Gate Red Blend

ALEXANDER VALLEY

2023




The 2023 Vintage was one of the coolest and latest vintages I've seen in the last two decades. The rain was much needed and with more than 55 inches was double than normal and helped replenish the reservoirs and nourish the vines. In February the temperatures dropped below freezing and we had snow on the valley floor! The precipitation also brought extra canopy growth and led to 5% to 15% higher yields for most varieties. Our viticulture team was diligent in thinning and doing crop adjustments where necessary. This was key to achieving a balanced crop and promoting ripening in a very late year. Overall, the entire season was late from bud break through verasion and finally ripening and harvest. As a result of the long and slow ripening the 2023 vintage wines are deeply flavorful, beautifully colored, dense and concentrated with moderate alcohol. The tannin, structure and acidity of these wines resembles some of the best European vintages. The 2023 vintage will be most likely one of the most memorable and age-worthy we had in a long time.

The La Storia Lions Gate wine is the first of its kind for Trentadue Winery. It is based on our very successful La Storia Merlot wine. We harvested the 2023 Merlot Blocks 513 and 500 grapes on October 13th, 2023. The average sugar at harvest was 25.5 Brix- ideal for making high quality, age worthy wines. Post pressing the wine was racked twice and pumped into barrels. Our La Storia Merlot is and has been consistently fine example of the ability of this classic Bordeaux variety to make solid, tasty and age worthy wines. The main aromas and flavors are of dark cherry, plums, a bit of black licorice and herbs. The new oak barrels contribute a touch of vanilla, brown sugar, cocoa dust, and toast. On the mouth the wine is soft and viscous, balancing the acidity and the tannins well for such a young wine. The finish is long and soft with suggestion of sweetness backed by ripe tannins. This wine will age well and will reward your patience if stored well in the next 4-7 years. Cheers!

MIRO TCHOLAKOV

## TECHNICAL NOTES

**VARIETAL**
75% Merlot
15% Cab. Sauvignon
4% Malbec, 4% Sangio.
2% Montepulciano
3% Syrah

**APPELLATION**
Alexander Valley

**WINEMAKER**
Miro Tcholakov

**PRODUCTION**
560 Cases

**HARVESTED**
October, 2023

**RELEASE DATE**
February 2025

**AGING**
14 months in 18% new French & European oak
3% American oak

**ALCOHOL**
14.8%

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** 0.3%

**pH**
3.53

**TOTAL ACID**
0.61g/100ml

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