# BENT OAK

WINERY







# TEXAS HIGH PLAINS 2018

## The Wine:

Sangiovese is an Italian grape that has found a home in Texas. Our Sangiovese is harvested from Buena Suerte Vineyards in the wind-swept Texas High Plains. We age our Sangiovese in French Oak for nine months to allow the wine to mature gracefully and round out its earthiness and complexity. This reveals the fresh fruity flavors of tart cherry and spice with a hint of strawberry on the nose, and medium tannins.

# AVA:

Texas is one of the oldest wine growing states in the US, with vines planted here more than a hundred years before they were planted in California or Virginia. In the 1650s, Franciscan priests planted Mission vines in West Texas, near modern day El Paso. The vines were a necessity in the production of sacramental wine used in the Eucharist. The horticulturist Thomas Munson used Texas vines to create hundreds of hybrid grapes and conducted significant research in finding root stock immune to the Phylloxera epidemic, which saved the French wine industry from total ruin. The advent of Prohibition in the United States virtually eliminated Texas' wine industry, which didn't experience a revival until the 1970s, beginning with the founding of Llano Estacado and Pheasant Ridge wineries in the Texas High Plains appellation near Lubbock and the La Buena Vida winery in Springtown. According to the Texas Grape and Wine Growers Association (txwines.org), Texas now has eight AVAs although many vineyards exist outside the specified AVAs.

### Wine Makers Notes:

Sangiovese is a wonderful grape to work with, especially with its strawberry and tart cherry earthiness. Care is needed when barrelling Sangiovese as it readily takes on oak and can become almost tarry if not properly barrelled. Our Sangiovese was barrelled in both new and older French Oak barrels to provide the right environment for the wine to fully mature.

# Recommended Food Pairings:

Paella, short rib ragu, roasted quail, wild boar, Italian food featuring rich marinara.

### Technical Data

pH - 3.82 TA - 0.746g/100mL SO2 - 60 mg/L A/V - 15.5%

Production: 137 cases

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