

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2021 Cimarron Vineyard Aglianico

Background:

We've been working with Cimarron Vineyard for nine vintages now, and it's always been one of our most important fruit sources. There are more than 20 varietals planted in varying-size blocks on this 37-acre vineyard. While we're always happy to work with some of the Cimarron standards, we're also always bugging owners Todd and Kelly Bostock to let us tinker with some of their more esoteric and experimental varietals. This is our third year working with their Aglianico and, again, it made one of the best wines of the vintage. Although this varietal ripens a little late, presenting a few challenges near the end of the season, it seems like it was meant for Arizona. This wine has intense, spicy dark currant and boysenberry fruit with a hint of black licorice, grippy tannins and some of the juiciest acidity we've seen in an AZ red. This kind of acidity is hard to come by in our desert state and it's a treat to see it in wine so complex. It should stand up to some aging!! Only two barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County, AZ

98% Aglianico from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 18th

2% Montepulciano from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 18th

Sugar at harvest: 24.1 Brix

Cellar Notes:

Destemmed but not crushed to an open-top, 1.5-ton bin. Lot was left ~25% whole cluster. Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (CVRP).

Hand-punched 3-4 times daily. Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 4 Brix. Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact.

Settled 1 day before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 50% new French (Alain Fouquet Cooperage) and 50% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 6 months in 100% neutral oak.

Twice racked. Filtered, but unfiltered.

Stats:

pH: 3.68

TA: 5.5 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.3%

Production: 49 cases

Drink now or cellar 7+ years

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

