

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2022 Dos Amigos Vineyard Grenache

Background:

We've been raving about Juan Alba's grape growing prowess for more than 10 years now. He is truly one of Arizona wine's unsung heroes. Not only is Juan the long-time manager of one of our most important fruit sources (Cimarron Vineyard), but his new Dos Amigos Vineyard is further proof that he is truly a master of Arizona grape farming. This bottling comes from the second of two Grenache picks at Juan's vineyard in 2022. We don't frequently bottle Grenache as a vineyard and varietal designate, but this was one of those lots that really stood out to us as something special. This wine has the pretty side we love about Grenache: a delicate strawberry/raspberry fruit, light spice, a hint of rose petals and the classic Grenache character of fallen leaves. But it also has enough body and texture to carry through to a long, delicious finish without being cloyingly sweet. Only seven barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County, AZ

97% Grenache from *Dos Amigos Vineyard*.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 29th

2% Syrah from *Sierra Bonita Vineyard*.

Graham County, AZ, 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 21st

1% Mourvedre from *Cimarron Vineyard*.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 19th

Sugar at harvest: 25.2 Brix

Cellar Notes:

Destemmed but not crushed to open-top, 3/4-ton bins. Lot was left ~20% whole cluster. Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (MT, GRE & UV43). Hand-punched 3-4 times daily. Inoculated with malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 0 Brix. Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact.

Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 100% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 6 months in 14% 2-year-old French (Damy Cooperage). 28% 3-year-old French (Damy & Ermitage Cooperages) and 58% neutral oak barrels

Twice racked. Filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.80

TA: 5.5 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.9%

Drink now or cellar 4+ years

Production: 173 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

