

chateau
TUMBLEWEED

2015 Earth Cuckoo

Background:

It was so good the first time, we had to bring it back! Inspired by the delicious wines of Rioja, we selected the first cut of each lot for this special wine. The dark, rich core of Tempranillo is accented with bright red fruit and spice of Grenache. The touch of Graciano adds acidity, spicy plum/watermelon character and fine, firm tannins.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

62% Tempranillo from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 1st
25% Grenache from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 1st
13% Graciano from Juan Alba Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation Harvested Sept. 9th

Sugar at harvest: 24.5 Brix average

Cellar Notes:

Destemmed, but not crushed to open top $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton bins.

Tempranillo was left ~20% whole-cluster, Grenache ~15%.

Cold-soaked 24 hours, then inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Rhône2056, D254, VRB, CLOS, T73).

Hand punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 7 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 9 days average skin contact.

Settled 3 days average before barreling

Aging:

Aged 4+ months in 100% neutral oak and 10 months in 25% new Hungarian oak (Dargaud & Jaeglé Cooperage)

Thrice racked. Filtered, but un-fined.

Stats:

pH: 3.76

TA: 5.8 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.8%

Production: 98 cases

Drink now or cellar 6+ years

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

