

chateau  
**TUMBLEWEED**

## 2016 Carlson Creek Vineyard Syrah

### Background:

After being very impressed by the Carlson family's Malbec in 2015, we wanted to see what else this up-and-coming vineyard has to offer. In 2016, we vinified 5 different varietals from Carlson Creek Vineyard and were quite pleased with what we saw. This wine is a great example of Arizona Syrah: not too dense or tannic with a balance of fruit, spice, earth characters and an interesting walnut-skin sensation so common of this varietal in our high desert vineyards. You'll be seeing more of this vineyard in the future!

### Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

*Willcox AVA*

*99% Syrah from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 18*

*1% Tempranillo from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 17*

*Sugar at harvest: 25.0 Brix*

### Cellar Notes:

*Destemmed but not crushed to open-top, 3/4-ton bins. Lot was left ~13% whole cluster.*

*Cold-soaked 24 hours, then inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Rhône2056 & VRB).*

*Hand punched 3-4 times daily.*

*Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 7 Brix.*

*Pressed at dryness after 9 days skin contact.*

*Settled 3 days before barreling.*

### Aging:

*Aged 4+ months in 50% 1-year-old French oak (Billon Cooperage)*

*and 7 more months in 100% neutral French oak barrels.*

*Twice racked. Filtered, but un-fined.*

### Stats:

*pH: 3.80*

*TA: 5.6 g/L*

*RS: <0.10%*

*Alcohol: 14.5%*

*Production: 24 cases*

*Drink now or cellar 5+ years*

*Winemaker: Joe Bechard*

