

# chateau TUMBLEWEED

## 2015 Cousin Idd

### Background:

We combined focused, spicy Merlot from two different vineyards with a dark, intense, tannic Malbec to make a wine of spectacular structure and balance. The complexity and acid/tannin harmony are uniquely Arizona and make this a special wine. Great for pairing with a range of foods, this is one of our largest blends of 2015 at only five barrels.

### Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

54% Merlot from Buhl Memorial Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 10th  
14% Merlot from Rolling View Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 11th  
31% Malbec from Carlson Creek Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 20th  
1% Cabernet Franc from Rolling View Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 3rd

Sugar at harvest: 23.9 Brix average

### Cellar Notes:

Destemmed, but not crushed to open top  $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton bins.  
Buhl Merlot was left ~15% whole cluster.  
Cold-soaked 24 hours, then inoculated with specially selected yeasts (BDX, MT, CLOS).  
Hand punched 3-4 times daily.  
Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 7 Brix.  
Pressed at dryness after 12 days average skin contact.  
Settled 3 days average before barreling

### Aging:

Aged 11 months in 20% new French oak  
(Alain Fouquet Cooperage and Gillet Cooperage).  
Twice racked. Filtered, but un-fined.

### Stats:

pH: 3.80  
TA: 5.9 g/L  
RS: <0.10%  
Alcohol: 13.3%  
Production: 120 cases  
Drink now or cellar 5+ years  
Winemaker: Joe Bechard

