

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2016 D.A. Ranch Vineyard Petite Sirah

Background:

One of the many cool things about our partnership with the Petznick Family from D.A. Ranch is that we now have access to very small amounts of high-quality Verde Valley grapes thoughtfully managed by our own Jeff Hendricks. While we don't work with a lot of Petite Sirah at Chateau Tumbleweed, we think this stuff is special. Not only is it grown in a relatively cool area (the Oak Creek Valley in Page Springs), it also grows in a fairly calcareous section of the vineyard, making it one of the more restrained and balanced Petites we've come across. For a little twist, this wine spent a couple months in a brand new French barrel after we used it to ferment some D.A. Ranch Seyval Blanc.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Yavapai County

97% Petite Sirah from D.A. Ranch Vineyard. Yavapai County, AZ. 3,500 ft. elevation. Harvested on Sept. 7th

2% Syrah from D.A. Ranch Vineyard. Yavapai County, AZ. 3,500 ft. elevation. Harvested on Sept. 8th

1% Cabernet Sauvignon from D.A. Ranch Vineyard. Yavapai County, AZ. 3,500 ft. elevation. Harvested on Sept. 26th

Sugar at harvest: 24.3 Brix.

Cellar Notes:

Destemmed but not crushed to open-top, 3/4-ton bins.

Cold-soaked 24 hours, then inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Rhone2056, VRB, D80).

Hand punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 7 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 13 days skin contact.

Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 4 months in 100% new French oak (Rousseau Cooperage)

and 11 more months in 100% neutral oak.

Thrice racked. Filtered, but un-fined.

Stats:

pH: 3.66

TA: 6.5 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.9%

Drink now or cellar 5+ years

Production: 24 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

