

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2017 Deep Sky Vineyard Malbec

Background:

We've had the chance to work with a few varietals from Deep Sky in the past (mostly while working for other wineries) and have always been impressed with the fruit quality and meticulousness of the vineyard. After our first experiment with AZ Malbec in 2015 and after hearing rave reviews from fellow winemakers about the Asmundson's Malbec, we were excited to give it a whirl in 2016. It was so good, we came back for more in 2017 (and 2018!). While this wine has big, inviting aromatics, it's surprisingly restrained and juicy on the palate with a spectacular finish of lavender, cassis, ripe plum, cigar box and fine, grippy tannins. Only two barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA

97% Malbec from Deep Sky Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 24th

2% Tempranillo from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 18th

1% Cabernet Franc from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 24th

Sugar at harvest: 24.4 Brix

Cellar Notes:

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

Cold-soaked 24 hours, then inoculated with specially selected yeasts (MT & BDX).

Hand punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 7 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 9 days skin contact.

Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

*Aged 5 months in 50% 2-year-old Romanian (Gillet Cooperage)
and 13 months in 100% neutral oak barrels.*

Thrice racked. Filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.76

TA: 5.8 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.1%

Drink now or cellar 5+ years

Production: 48 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

