

# chateau TUMBLEWEED

## 2017 Dr. Ron Bot

### Background:

We made a killer, one-off Rhone blend back in 2013 and didn't realize what a nice addition to our permanent portfolio it would be. After watching how incredibly that wine evolved and how people reacted to it, we brought Dr. Ron Bot back as a regular character in our cast a few years later. This vintage is an even balance of depth and richness from Syrah; bright red fruit, spice and gritty tannin of Mourvedre; and soft, strawberry fruit from Grenache. There are a lot of layers to unravel in this one, and it should only get more interesting with time. This is our largest blend of the year at a whopping 12 barrels.

### Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

*Willcox AVA*

33% Syrah from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 11th  
17% Mourvedre from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 1st  
17% Mourvedre from Pillsbury Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 12th  
17% Grenache from Cimarron Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 16th  
16% Grenache from Pillsbury Vineyard. Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 18th

*Sugar at harvest: 24.5 Brix average*

### Cellar Notes:

*Destemmed but not crushed to open-top, 3/4- and 1.5-ton bins. All lots were left 8-20% whole cluster except Pillsbury Mourvedre. Cold-soaked 24 hours, then inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Rhone2056, D254, CLOS, D80 & VRB).*

*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 17% 2-year-old and 8% 1-year-old French oak barrels. Aged another 7 months in 8% 2-year-old and 8% 1-year-old French oak barrels (Rousseau, Gillet & Ermitage Cooperages).*

*Twice racked. Filtered, but unfined.*

### Stats:

*pH: 3.75*

*TA: 5.7 g/L*

*RS: <0.10%*

*Alcohol: 14.2%*

*Production: 290 cases*

*Drink now or cellar up to 5+ years*

*Winemaker: Joe Bechard*

