

# chateau TUMBLEWEED

## 2018 Carlson Creek Vineyard Malbec

### Background:

This Malbec has become a regular feature in our cellar and we feel like we're getting to know it pretty well by now. Like many of the red varietals at Carlson Creek Vineyard, the aromatics of this wine are extremely intense and elevated. But unlike many expressions of Malbec, this wine is always a little brighter and more red-fruit driven. With its added layers of violet, lavender, cassis, green spice and red plum, it makes a pretty and complex wine. AZ Malbec has been turning a lot of heads and this is a definite star from this exciting vineyard! Only three barrels produced.

### Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

*Willcox AVA – Cochise County*

95% Malbec from Carlson Creek Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 15th

5% Cabernet Sauvignon from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

Graham County, AZ. 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 31st

*Sugar at harvest: 24.9 Brix.*

### Cellar Notes:

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

Lot was left ~8% Whole-cluster.

Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (BDX, VRB & UV43).

Hand punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 6 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact.

Settled 3 days before barreling.

### Aging:

Aged 5 months in 33% new Hungarian (Vallaurine Cooperage) and

67% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 13 months in 100% neutral oak barrels.

Thrice racked. Filtered, but unfined.

### Stats:

pH: 3.84

TA: 5.7 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.4%

Drink now or cellar 5+ years

Production: 74 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

