

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2019 Cimarron Vineyard Graciano

Background:

This is our sixth vintage working with Graciano from Todd & Kelly Bostock's Cimarron Vineyard in Willcox and it now enjoys its own special niche in our portfolio. We always use a little bit in Earth Cuckoo and LeBlend, but the vast majority goes toward vineyard and varietal designation for our wine club and tasting room. Graciano is traditionally regarded as a blending grape in its home country of Spain – often used in very small proportions. But the grape is rapidly gaining notoriety here in Arizona where it makes pretty, energetic wines with notes of bright red watermelon and spicy plum, juicy acidity and beautiful, small, grippy tannins. This Graciano is always one of the go-to wines at Chateau Tumbleweed! Only four barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County

100% Graciano from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 26th

Sugar at harvest: 24.5 Brix.

Cellar Notes:

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

Lot was left ~25% whole cluster.

Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (VRB, Rhone2056 &, Clos).

Hand punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 10 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact.

Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 11 months in 25% new French (Ermitage Cooperage)
and 75% neutral oak barrels.

Twice racked. Filtered, but unfinned.

Stats:

pH: 3.61

TA: 6.1 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.0%

Drink now or cellar 6+ years

Production: 98 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

