

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2019 Dr. Ron Bot

Background:

Dr. Ron Bot, our larger Rhone-inspired blend, was first born in 2013. He took a couple years off to find himself in 2014 and 2015, but has been back on the job ever since. Ron's composition changes from year to year, but his complexity and gregariousness come from the fact that he is a blend of several excellent components. His depth and richness come from Syrah. His complex red fruit, peppery spice and gritty tannins come from Mourvedre. His soft, strawberry fruit and brambly spice come from Grenache. Ron Bot is an amiable fellow with a lot of charming layers to unravel and he will only get more interesting with a few years' time. Only 13 barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA - Arizona

28% Syrah from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 22nd

15% Syrah from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

Graham County, AZ. 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 30th

19% Grenache from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 20th

14% Grenache from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

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

24% Mourvedre from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 22nd

Sugar at harvest: 24.6 Brix average.

Cellar Notes:

Destemmed but not crushed to open-top, $\frac{3}{4}$ - and 1.5-ton bins. All lots were left an average of 18% whole-cluster. Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Rhone2056, D254, CLOS, D80, T73, Ionys WF, VRB & UV43). Hand punched 3-4 times daily. Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 5 Brix. Pressed at dryness after 10 days average skin contact. Settled 2 days average before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 7% 1-year-old French (Ermitage Cooperage), 7% 3-year-old Romanian (Gillet Cooperage) and 86% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 6 months in 8% new French (Damy Cooperage), 16% 1-year-old French (Ermitage & Alain Fouquet Cooperages) 8% 3-year-old Romanian (Gillet Cooperage) and 68% neutral oak barrels. Twice racked. Filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.83

TA: 5.7 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.2%

Production: 335 cases

Drink now or cellar up to 5+ years

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

