

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2019 Rolling View Vineyard Sangiovese

Background:

Every year, we pester the Pierce family to sell us a little fruit from their meticulous vineyard in Kansas Settlement. They never have much to part with, as most of their fruit goes into the production of their own wines. But we always seem to wrestle one-half to one ton of something special from their grips. This year, we were excited to see that they had a half-ton of Sangiovese for us. This was a great time to try their Sangio, not only because it looked beautiful, but also because we brought the varietal in from three other vineyards in 2019... a great time to compare them all! As always, the fruit from Rolling View is more restrained and austere than it is in most AZ vineyards. The varietal character shines in this wine and there is an awesome cherry cola/Dr. Pepper note that has us completely geeking out. Only one barrel of this delicious wine produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County

96% Sangiovese from Rolling View Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 7th

2% Sangiovese from Edge of the Vine Vineyard.

Yavapai County, AZ. 3,500 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 27th

1% Aglianico from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Oct. 2nd

1% Montepulciano from Cimarron Vineyard.

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

Sugar at harvest: 23.9 Brix.

Cellar Notes:

Destemmed but not crushed to an open-top, $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton bin.

Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (BRL97). Hand punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 1 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 9 days skin contact. Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 100% 4-year-old French (Ermitage Cooperage) oak barrels.

Aged another 6 months in 100% neutral oak barrels.

Twice racked. Filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.80

TA: 5.7 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.6%

Production: 24 cases

Drink now or cellar 4+ years

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

