

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2019 Sierra Bonita Vineyard Grenache Blanc

Background:

This is our second year working with fruit from Sierra Bonita Vineyard. It's located north of Willcox in Graham County and is a slightly cooler site where fruit ripens two or three weeks later than it does south of Willcox in Kansas Settlement. We had high hopes for this Grenache Blanc when it first became available, and so far, it's panning out. It has such a bright, citrusy nose and crisp acidity that it stands out as a varietal we'd like to see planted more broadly in Arizona. While we didn't have enough in 2018 to bottle alone, 2019 produced a slightly higher yield giving us a chance to share this special varietal with you. Only 49 cases produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Graham County

100% Grenache Blanc from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

Graham County, AZ. 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested on Sept. 22nd

Sugar at harvest: 22.5 Brix.

Cellar Notes:

Pressed whole-cluster.

Juice then settled 48 hours, racked and inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Rhône4600). Fermented in stainless steel at 55F for 18 days.

Malolactic fermentation inhibited.

Aging:

Aged 6 months in stainless steel.

This wine saw only minimal cold-stabilization, did NOT undergo heat-stabilization and is filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.42

TA: 5.8 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.5%

Drink within 1-2 years

Production: 49 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

