

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2020 Pillsbury Vineyard Mourvedre

Background:

We've long thought Arizona Mourvedre is something special, and, judging by the response in the tasting room over the past few years, a lot of you agree with us! With its fresher acidity, spicy red fruit, earthy notes and slightly wild edge, Mourvedre (even if it does ripen a little late) and Arizona are a match made in heaven. This bottling comes from Sam Pillsbury's vineyard in Kansas Settlement, south of Willcox. Sam could honestly be farming some of our favorite Arizona Mourvedre right now. It has the varietal's typical bright red fruit, intense spice and gamey side, but there's something in the texture and finish of his Mourvedre that always stands out to us. Only two barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County, AZ

96% Mourvedre from Pillsbury Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 27th

4% Syrah from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

Graham County, AZ. 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 9th

Sugar at harvest: 24.7 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 (Rhone2056, D254 & T73).

Hand-punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 4 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact.

Settled 1 day before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 50% new French (Damy Cooperage) and

50% neutral 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: 13.8%

Production: 49 cases

Drink now or cellar 5+ years

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

