

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2020 Teroldego

Background:

We've been fortunate to source a few small lots from House Mountain Vineyard over the years. We do have a small connection to it: our partners at the D.A. Ranch joined forces with Page Springs Cellars on this vineyard, our own Jeff Hendricks played a pivotal role in planting it, and all of us Tumbleweeds spent some time working at PSC. Demand for AZ grapes has skyrocketed so Chateau Tumbleweed's days working with HMV fruit might now be coming to a close. At least, with this Teroldego, we'll be finishing with a bang! We don't know much about the varietal and our only warning from Eric Glomski was that it's "tannic as fu**." While it may lack in the acidity department, Teroldego certainly makes up with tannin and richness. You practically have to chew this wine, but it has so many layers to unravel beyond its core of ripe plum, tobacco and anise. We didn't have enough to completely fill two barrels so we guessed that Cab Franc might be a decent complement(?). If it is goodbye to HMV, we think it was a fun one! Only two barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Yavapai County, AZ

88% Teroldego from House Mountain Vineyard.

Yavapai County, AZ. 3,500 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 19th

12% Cabernet Franc from Cimarron Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ. 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 18th

Sugar at harvest: 24.8 Brix

Cellar Notes:

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

Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (V1116). Hand-punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 1 Brix. Pressed at dryness after 13 days skin contact. Settled 3 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 50% new French (Alain Fouquet Cooperage) and 50% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 6 months in 100% neutral oak barrels. Twice raked. Filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.85

TA: 5.8 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.6%

Production: 49 cases

Drink now or cellar 5+ years

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

