

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2021 Dos Amigos Vineyard Graciano

Background:

We've been sourcing fruit from Cimarron Vineyard for the last nine years now, and there's so much we appreciate about working with Todd & Kelly Bostock and their special site. One of the many factors that set their vineyard apart is their Vineyard Manager, Juan Alba. He came to AZ in the early 2000's to start Cimarron with his old boss, Oregon Pinot Noir Pioneer Dick Erath. Juan has been tending that land since then and has also started a couple other projects along the way. He planted a small vineyard near Elfrida that now serves as the foundation for Los Milics winery and he also has a new vineyard in Willcox called Dos Amigos – our newest source. We were able to tinker with a few varietals from Dos Amigos this year and it's even more proof that Juan is one of Arizona's best growers. This is probably the boldest AZ Graciano we've ever made: the fruit character is significantly darker and the wine is much denser and chewier than our other two Gracianos of the vintage. This is special stuff! Only three barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County, AZ

99% Graciano from *Dos Amigos Vineyard*.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Aug. 29th

1% Graciano from *Rhumb Line Vineyard*.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 3rd

Sugar at harvest: 25.1 Brix

Cellar Notes:

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

Lot was left ~25% whole cluster. Inoculated with specially selected yeasts (Clos, V1116 & UV43). Hand-punched 3-4 times daily.

Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 3 Brix.

Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact.

Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 5 months in 33% new French (Billon Cooperage) and

67% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 6 months in 100% neutral oak barrels.

Twice racked. Filtered, but unfinned.

Stats:

pH: 3.75

TA: 5.5 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 14.8%

Drink now or cellar 6+ years

Production: 74 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

