

chateau
TUMBLEWEED

2019 Carlson Creek Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

Background:

We've been sourcing a handful of reds from Carlson Creek Vineyard for the past five vintages now and we're always surprised by how much this vineyard's character stands out. The reds just seem to be more approachable with intense, inviting aromatics and softer, less-tannic palates than their counterparts from other vineyards. The Cab Sauv from this vineyard always strikes us as a happy medium between Old- and New-World characters. The fruit on the nose is generous, but it's bright and vivid; not too dark or concentrated. Light notes of spice, wood and earth add to the fruit's complexity making this a beautiful and food-friendly wine. Only two barrels produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Cochise County, AZ

97% Cabernet Sauvignon from Carlson Creek Vineyard.

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

2% Cabernet Franc from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

Graham County, AZ, 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested Oct. 2nd

1% Malbec from Deep Sky Vineyard.

Cochise County, AZ, 4,300 ft. elevation. Harvested Sept. 20th

Sugar at harvest: 24.4 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 (BDX, MT & BM45). Hand punched 3-4 times daily. Inoculated with Malolactic bacteria (Omega) around 4 Brix. Pressed at dryness after 10 days skin contact. Settled 2 days before barreling.

Aging:

Aged 4 months in 67% 3-year-old French (Alain Fouquet and LeGrand cooperages) and 33% neutral oak barrels. Aged 7 months in 50% 3-year-old French (Alain Fouquet Cooperage) and 50% neutral oak barrels. Aged another 7 months in 50% 1-year-old French (Alain Fouquet Cooperage) and 50% neutral oak barrels. Thrice racked. Filtered, but unfined.

Stats:

pH: 3.87

TA: 5.9 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.2%

Drink now or cellar 5+ years

Production: 49 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

