

chateau TUMBLEWEED

2023 Sierra Bonita Vineyard Grenache Blanc

Background:

This is our sixth vintage working with fruit from Sierra Bonita Vineyard. It's a slightly cooler site, located at the northern edge of the Willcox AVA – in Graham County rather than Cochise. Fruit there ripens two or three weeks later than it does south of Willcox in Kansas Settlement. And, the longer we work with this vineyard, the more excited we get about this little microclimate within the greater Willcox AVA. With its bright, citrusy nose and fresh acidity, this Grenache Blanc is a perennial favorite around the winery and a varietal we'd like to see more of in Arizona. It's a rare grape around these parts and we're lucky we get to tinker with it! Only 105 cases produced.

Varietal Composition and Appellation/Fruit Sourcing:

Willcox AVA – Graham County, AZ

100% Grenache Blanc from Sierra Bonita Vineyard.

Graham County, AZ. 4,400 ft. elevation. Harvested on Sept. 8th

Sugar at harvest: 21.6 Brix.

Cellar Notes:

Pressed whole-cluster.

Juice then settled 48 hours, racked and inoculated with specially selected yeasts (R-HST). Fermented in stainless steel at 55F for 25 days.

Malolactic fermentation inhibited.

Aging:

Aged 6 months in stainless steel (without lees stirring).

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

Stats:

pH: 3.56

TA: 5.8 g/L

RS: <0.10%

Alcohol: 13.4%

Drink within 1-2 years

Production: 105 cases

Winemaker: Joe Bechard

