

# RIDGE 2018 GRENACHE BLANC

75% GRENACHE BLANC, 15% PICPOUL, 10% ROUSSANNE  
ADELAIDA VINEYARD PASO ROBLES 14.0% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

## HISTORY

The Adelaida district is well-suited to growing superb rhône varieties. Located in the hills west of Paso Robles, its limestone sub-soils produce wines with excellent mineral character. Paso Robles is the epicenter of new rhône plantings in California. We are fortunate to be able to source grapes from Adelaida Vineyards, who planted grenache blanc, roussanne, viognier, and picpoul blanc among other more established varieties such as grenache noir, syrah and mourvedre (mataro). The vineyard lies on the limestone hills of the Adelaida district, 13 miles from the Pacific coast. Warm days, cool nights, and balanced vines promote great acidity in the grapes.

FIRST RIDGE GRENACHE BLANC: 2018

## VINTAGE

**Rainfall:** 20 inches (above normal)

**Bloom:** Late May

**Weather:** Spring rains helped the vines get through a warm summer; fall was mild.

**Harvest Dates:** 8 – 17 September

**Grapes:** Average Brix 23.2°

## WINEMAKING

**Fermentation:** Whole-cluster pressed. Natural primary finished January 2019, and secondary finished by March 2019. 44% Stainless steel tank fermented, 56% barrel fermented.

**Barrels:** 56% aged in 90% air-dried American oak barrels and 10% French oak; (12% were new, 10% four-years-old, and 78% five-years-old.)

**Aging:** Eight months in barrel

Hand-harvested grapes; whole-cluster pressed; fermented on the native yeasts; full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm initially to barrels, 55 ppm over the course of aging). Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



*2018 Grenache Blanc, bottled May 2019  
This is our first grenache blanc bottling. Our well-established white winemaking methods were used. To maintain greater fruit definition and freshness a portion of this wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks. The balance was fermented in barrel with twelve percent of the final wine in new oak, adding a touch of spice and richness. This wine will be most enjoyable over the next five to six years. EB (3/19)*



## SITE

**Adelaida Vineyard** is located in Paso Robles – Adelaida District

**Soils:** Fractured limestone soils, including shale and sandstone.

**Age of Vines:** Twenty years old

**Training:** Head-trained, spur pruned, vertical trellis.

**Yields:** 3.5 tons per acre

**RIDGE**  
VINEYARDS

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