

RIDGE 2022

GRENACHE

BLANC

86% GRENACHE BLANC, 14% PICPOUL

61% ADELAIDA VINEYARD, 24% FOSSIL CREEK VINEYARD,
15% HALTER RANCH VINEYARD

HISTORY

Paso Robles is the epicenter of new Rhône plantings in California. We first sourced Rhône grapes for our Grenache Blanc from Adelaida Vineyards. This was followed by a second bottling with grapes from Halter Ranch. Both vineyards are in the limestone soils of the Adelaida Hills District of Paso Robles. Then Mike Dusi approached us about planting Grenache Blanc at his nearby Fossil Creek Vineyard if we would be interested in the grapes, and we said yes. In 2022 we received the first Fossil Creek grapes and out of curiosity did a trial blend with fruit from all three vineyards. We found the resulting wine superior to the wines made separately from each vineyard.

FIRST RIDGE GRENACHE BLANC: 2018

VINTAGE

Rainfall: 18 inches (below normal)

Bloom: Late May

Weather: Spring and summer were typical of Paso Robles' west side; cool nights and warm days.

Harvest Dates: 22 August - 6 September

Grapes: Average Brix 23.1°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

Fermentation: 100% direct-to-press whole cluster. 100% natural primary and secondary (malolactic) fermentation.

Aging: Fermented in barrel for 4 months (85% American oak; 12% one-year-old, 79% two- to three-year old, 8% new French oak, and 1% new Acacia) then aged an additional 6 months. 2% Concrete amphora fermented and aged for 4 months then to neutral barrels for remaining 6 months. 4% Stainless steel fermented and aged for 10 months.

pH: 3.18 **TA:** 5.54 g/L

Sustainably farmed, hand-harvested grapes; whole-cluster pressed; fermented on the native yeasts; full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective SO₂, 35 ppm at crush and 48 ppm during aging. Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



RIDGE
VINEYARDS

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2022 Grenache Blanc, bottled May 2023

Fourteen miles inland, this unique growing area creates conditions well suited to grenache blanc. The grapes were whole cluster pressed, fermented dry, and aged on the lees for six months. Cool summer fogs off the Pacific, the minerality of limestone soils, and the spice and bright acidity of the picpoul have provided an enticing wine. It will be most enjoyable over the next four to five years. TG (3/23)



SITE

Adelaida Vineyard is located in Paso Robles – Adelaida District

Soils: Fractured limestone soils, including shale and sandstone.

Age of Vines: Planted in 2007

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

Yields: 3.1 tons per acre

Fossil Creek Vineyard is located in Paso Robles – Willows District

Soils: Fractured limestone soils, including shale and sandstone.

Age of Vines: Planted in 2020

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

Yields: 1 ton per acre

Halter Ranch is located in Paso Robles – Adelaida District

Soils: Fractured limestone soils, including shale and sandstone.

Age of Vines: Planted in 2013 and 2014

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

Yields: 3.4 tons per acre

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