

RIDGE 2023

GRENACHE

BLANC

84% GRENACHE BLANC, 14% PICPOUL, 2% ROUSSANNE
52% FOSSIL CREEK VINEYARD, 46% ADELAIDA VINEYARD,
2% HALTER RANCH VINEYARD

HISTORY

Western 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 cooler climate and limestone soils of the Adelaida Hills District within the Paso Robles AVA. 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: 45 inches (above average)

Bloom: Early June

Weather: Cold and wet winter, late start to the growing season.

Harvest Dates: 3 October - 1 November

Grapes: Average Brix 24.2°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

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

Aging: Fermented in barrel – 4 months in 33% American oak (20% one-year-old and 80% two- and three-year-old), 4% new French oak, 1% new Acacia then aged an additional 6 months. 2% concrete amphora, 2% Italian clay amphora fermented and aged for 4 months then to neutral barrels for remaining 6 months.

58% Stainless steel fermented and aged for 10 months.

pH: 3.17 **TA:** 6.13 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 50 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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Exceptional single-vineyard wines since 1962.

2023 Grenache Blanc, bottled April 2024
Limestone soils and proximity to the Pacific provide ideal growing conditions for grenache blanc to thrive. The grapes were pressed as whole clusters, fermented, and then aged on the lees for six months. The wine has great concentration, bright acidity, and appealing minerality. This delightful wine is enjoyable now or can be aged for four to five years. *TG (2/24)*



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: 4.5 tons per acre

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