

# RIDGE 2024 GRENACHE BLANC

85% GRENACHE BLANC, 12% PICPOUL, 3% ROUSSANNE  
47% FOSSIL CREEK VINEYARD, 39% ADELAIDA VINEYARD,  
14% 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:** 35 inches (above average)

**Bloom:** Early May

**Weather:** Spring 2024 was cool and a bit late, with some frost damage at Fossil Creek. By June, summer turned hot (with typical cool nights) which accelerated ripening.

**Harvest Dates:** 11 - 18 September

**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.

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 SO<sub>2</sub>, 35 ppm at crush and 93 ppm during aging. Pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



**RIDGE**  
VINEYARDS

408.867.3233

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*2024 Grenache Blanc, bottled June 2025*  
In 2018, we first produced a small amount of Grenache Blanc from the Adelaida vineyard. Impressed with the balance of minerality, firm acidity and subtle stone fruit, we now source grenache blanc, picpoul and roussanne from three vineyards on the west side of Paso Robles. After whole cluster pressing, the wine was aged for eight months in five year old barrels and bottled early to preserve freshness. Delicious now, it will develop fully over five years. JO (4/25)



## 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 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:** 2 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 tons per acre

17100 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014  
650 Lytton Springs Road, Healdsburg, CA 95448