

GRENACHE BLANC 2016



The 2016 Tablas Creek Vineyard Grenache Blanc is Tablas Creek's fourteenth bottling of its 100% Grenache Blanc. The Grenache Blanc grape, a widely-planted but rarely acknowledged southern Rhone varietal is the white variant of the better-known Grenache Noir. It produces wines with full body, good acidity, and flavors of citrus, anise, and green apple.

We use most of our Grenache Blanc in our Esprit de Tablas Blanc and Cotes de Tablas Blanc each year. However, we have been so pleased by the flavors and intensity of the Grenache Blanc that we try to reserve a small quantity of Grenache Blanc for a single-varietal bottling when we can.

The grapes for our 2016 Grenache Blanc were grown on our certified organic estate vineyard.

The 2016 vintage, while still marked by drought, saw better rainfall than the four previous years, and the vineyards showed good health through most of the growing season. That season started with a very early budbreak and continued warm weather spurred our earliest-ever beginning to harvest, on August 18th. But beginning mid-August, three cool weeks slowed the ripening for all but our earliest grapes, and allowed them to reach flavor and phenolic maturity with slightly above-average hang time. The resulting vintage shows excellent concentration but also remarkable vibrancy, with electric acids framing appealing juiciness. The Grenache Blanc was harvested between the 6th and 22nd of September.

For our varietal Grenache Blanc, we balanced lots that were fermented in stainless steel (for brightness) and foudre (for roundness). These lots were blended in April 2017 and bottled in June 2017.

The 2016 Grenache Blanc has an explosively mineral nose with petrichor, citrus blossom, green apple and white pepper. Rich on the palate, with flavors of pineapple, lychee, orange peel and crushed rock. The finish is generous and long, with more rocky minerality and a candied grapefruit note.

TECHNICAL NOTES

100% Grenache Blanc

13.9% Alcohol by Volume
700 Cases Produced

FOOD PAIRINGS

Spicy Asian preparations of fish and chicken

Shrimp Scampi
Sushi
Mussels Mariniere