

QUIVIRA

VINEYARDS
Intentional wines, naturally.



WINE CREEK RANCH | 2021

Grenache

DRY CREEK VALLEY

The Wine Creek Ranch terroir shares many similarities with France's Southern Rhône Valley, especially in terms of climate—warm to hot days and very cool nights. For this reason, we began planting an assortment of Rhône varieties more than two decades ago, with an emphasis on Grenache.

“We strive to balance this variety’s tendency towards firm tannins by following a more Burgundian winemaking approach focused on extremely gentle handling and slow, controlled extraction...really more of an infusion.”

WINEMAKER HUGH CHAPPELLE

CCOF CERTIFIED ESTATE VINEYARD

► The 110-acre Wine Creek Ranch is home to 59 acres of vineyards that surround our winery and tasting room. As the coolest site in Dry Creek Valley (according to Adcon weather station), the Mediterranean climate and well-drained soils are ideal for Rhône varieties. Our Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvèdre blocks are planted only a few hundred yards apart.

VINTAGE

► 2021 was a season defined by drought. Exceptionally low rainfall during the winter limited shoot growth, which ultimately reduced crop size on our Grenache, like it did for many of our other varieties. The silver lining to low yields is greater concentration in the resultant small crop. That was most definitely the case in 2021 where both smaller cluster size and smaller berry size have given us an exceptional vintage of our beloved estate Grenache. As always, picking across a spectrum of different ripeness levels resulted in a wine that is exceptionally well balanced in alcohol, tannin, and natural acidity.

WINEMAKING

► Our goal is to achieve optimal ripeness at the lowest sugar (and alcohol) possible. Partial whole-cluster fermentation helped moderate tannin while adding high-toned, bright fruit. Gentle basket-pressing further ensured well-balanced tannins. In classic Southern Rhône Valley style, aging took place in traditional French oak Foudres (600- and 900-gallon casks) to best preserve and showcase Grenache's prized red fruit aromatics.

TASTING NOTES

► Very light and delicate garnet color fades to a purple tinged rim. The nose is filled with black cherry, dark chocolate, and a hint of black pepper but this changes in the mouth as the wine becomes more red fruit-driven. Think very ripe, juicy summer cherries, strawberries, and plum skin that is wrapped in grippy tannins with touches of milk chocolate and bracing acidity.

► A medium to light bodied wine that pairs well with anything from salmon sushi to slow-braised short rib.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

► 86% Grenache, 14% Mourvèdre

HARVEST DATES

► September 11 - October 7, 2021

pH | TA

► 3.49 | 0.58

ALCOHOL

► 14.4%

AGING

► Aged 8 mo. in French Oak
Moved to Foudre for 8 mo.

BOTTLED

► February 9, 2023

PRICE

► \$45

