

2017

# GRENACHE BLANC

Heart Hill Vineyard, Paso Robles

*100% Grenache Blanc*



## VINEYARD

We farm just two acres of Grenache Blanc grapes at Heart Hill Vineyard, located at the lowest elevation point in the vineyard. The cold weather snaps common with Willow Creek District mornings can produce frosts that sink low and damage the fruit in this block, but the warm 2017 season allowed for hang-time on the vines. We kept the canopy full to block from sun damage and were happy to harvest healthy, vibrant clusters of this golden grape.

## WINEMAKING

We hand-harvested this block and whole cluster pressed the fruit into a combination of barrels. We added complexity by using a variety of yeasts and put a small portion through malolactic fermentation to balance the naturally high acidity. About 2/3 of the finished wine came from a single, large 500L French Oak barrel and the wine spent 10 months in barrel before bottling. Grenache Blanc continues to surprise us with its age-ability and rounded honey notes that balance the high acidity and fruit flavors, so don't be surprised if this wine continues to develop over the next 3-5 years.

WINEMAKER	Patrick Muran
CLONES	Feild Select
BLOCKS	HH1
VINEYARD	Heart Hill Vineyard
AVERAGE BRIX	23.8
pH/TA	3.2/5.7 g/L
ALCOHOL	14.5%
AVERAGE YIELD	6.7 tons/acre
BARREL AGING	10 months
COOPERAGE	30% New French Oak
CASES PRODUCED	327