

THE OWL & THE DUST DEVIL

2016 The Owl & The Dust Devil Icon Blend

This red wine is a single vineyard blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petit Verdot, Tannat and Tannat. The Cabernet gives the wine backbone and structure which is supported by the aromatics and silky profile of the Malbec and Cabernet Franc. Petit Verdot and Tannat provide not only a rich core to the wine but also depth of character and flavor for superb ageing potential

2016 Vintage

The forecast of the 2016 vintage was set to be similar to the cool, rainy 2015 vintage. With this in mind, we plucked leaves not only on the east facing but also on the west facing canopy to ensure good airflow in face of cool rains. In reality, the intermittent rains stopped in January and the dry February and March saw phenolic ripeness achieved. The vintage expresses itself in high acidity, lower than normal alcohol and fresh flavours.

Finca Decero, Remolinos Vineyard, Agrelo, Mendoza, Argentina

The grapes are sourced exclusively from the western part of Finca Decero's Remolinos Vineyard at 1050m/3500ft in the Agrelo sub-appellation of Mendoza. The vines are planted on low vigour, coarse and gravel-rich loams. Nurtured by hand, the vines are leaf plucked on the east facing canopy and clusters are thinned to one cluster per shoot. The grapes were handpicked from March 29th – April 23rd 2016.

Winemaking

The grapes underwent Finca Decero's 4-step selection process to selection berry by berry before being gravity fed into small fermentation tanks. 7 days of cold soak was followed by 10 days of fermentation in small stainless steel tanks at 25-26°C for more aromatic parcels and 28-29°C for parcels with more concentration and structure. Finally, the parcels benefited from 15 days of maceration post fermentation before being transferred to mature in small French oak barrels (40% new oak) for 18 months. Only after this stage, the final selection of parcels and the optimal composition of the wine were decided. The wine was then bottled in entirety in one single session to safeguard the consistency from bottle to bottle.

Alcohol: 14.5%

pH: 3.6

Total acidity: 5.25/l

Composition of the Blend: 50% Malbec, 26% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Petit Verdot, 8% Tannat 4% Cabernet Franc

