



MADRONA

2017 Grenache Rosé - Hillside Collection

Grenache

Grenache is quite possibly the fruitiest red wine out there. Originating in the Rhone region of France, the variety is grown in many countries, often as fresh and light varietal for quaffing. For Madrone, we had never intended to bottle a Grenache. We had grafted in the variety to blend with our Syrah to intensify its fruitiness. Unfortunately, the fresh strawberry characters overflowing in the wine merely muddled the cherished gaminess and complexity of our Syrah. Thus, our Grenache was born and subsequently or Grenache Rosé.

The Vineyards

We grafted the Chateau Rayas clone of Grenache into our Pleasant Valley vineyards in 2005. A joint venture between Paul, Maggie, David and Sheila Bush (Sumu Kaw Vineyards), we strive to produce the premier Grenache in California. The rootstocks are all devigorating, an important aspect to controlling the growth in this variety. Even so, we drop 50% of the crop (making our Grenache Rosé) to insure balance in the vine and uniform ripeness. And with a slight north-facing slope at the 2900 foot elevation, the growing season is long and drawn-out, perfect for the wine's great structure and complexity.

The 2017 Vintage

This truly is summer in a glass. Light and refreshing while richly textured, this blend of 94% Grenache, 2% Zin, 2% Barbera and 2% Nebbiolo hits the mark on both being an exceptional rosé as well as emphasizing the complexity possible. The pale, "onion skin" color alludes to this wine's classic characters. The aromas are a cornucopia of raspberry, strawberry, and ruby grapefruit. This freshness carries through onto the palate with an almost tart entry that immediately molds into a luscious and mouth-filling texture. Perfect with almost any summertime fare, and chilled cool, this wine will easily become your go-to summer evening wine!

Suggested Food Pairings

I'm thinking grilled fish with a little pico de gallo, grill sausages or grilled veggies with a hint of Mexican spice. I can't wait to pair this Grenache Rosé with something spicy! (Cellaring Potential: 3-5 years)

Facts

Appellation: El Dorado

Estate Grown

Blend: 94% Grenache, 2% Barbera, 2% Zinfandel, 2% Nebbiolo

Fermentation: Fermented in stainless tanks and barrels

Bottled: March 22, 2018

Alcohol: 11.4

pH: 3.14 TA: 0.68 g/100ml

Residual Sugar: 0.1%

Production: 204 cases