

Pillsbury Wine Company



2018 "WildChild" Red

- Winery** After 30 years of making movies in New Zealand and Los Angeles, Sam Pillsbury turned his hand to wine making. Convinced that the Willcox, Arizona, altitude, geology and climate were perfect for making wine, he purchased land, planted grapevines and started to make some. Sam's wines are unapologetically good wines. Often when Arizona wines are presented, they include apologies for the quality (Arizona is still learning how to make wine) or cost (it's expensive getting going in a new region). Neither of these excuses are needed for Pillsbury Wines.
- Vineyard** Pillsbury grapes come from their 100 acre, sustainable vineyard of 14,000 vines. The Winery is right on the vineyard, in what is now the Willcox AVA, in Cochise County Arizona, not far from Tombstone. The elevation is 4350 ft, with the average hottest temperature, 100 degrees, in the summer, dropping to 60 degrees at night. The winter temps are below freezing, with intermittent snow. The soil is well-drained igneous alluvial sandy loam, with a thin layer of caliche at 3 to 4 ft. The vines are irrigated with using low flow emitters. The water comes from their 450 foot deep wells.
- Naming** "WildChild" originates from the early versions of this blend that we made from wild fruit from an abandoned vineyard, and because Sam and his wife had recently had an exuberant baby boy.
- Description** This is a rogue Cotes-de-Rhone, 42% Grenache, 27% Syrah, 24% Mourvèdre. 5% Petite Sirah, 2% Sangiovese. The Syrah is a Shiraz clone 6, own rooted. The Grenache is Tablas Creek (ex Chateau Beaucastle) on 1103P, and the Mourvèdre is clone 450 on a mixture of 1103P and own rooted.
- Winemaking** All fruit is picked at 24 brix or less, destemmed and fermented to dry in bins, with a mixture of wild and cultured yeasts, then racked to neutral oak barrels for 18 months. The varietal bottlings are made from selected barrels, the remaining barrels are blended to make the WildChild wine.

Arizona Distribution by

Orangewood Wines

Richard and Laurie Corles 480.488.4794