

AROMA

black plum, moroccan spice, violets

FLAVOR

marion berry, black chai tea, iron shavings

FOOD PAIRINGS

merguez sausages, skirt steak tacos, portuguese kale soup

VINIFICATION

This old-vine Carignan was hand harvested, intensely sorted, and fermented on wild yeasts using predominantly carbonic maceration, plus some 100% whole-cluster open-top ferments. Malolactic fermentation occurred naturally and finished completely. The wine was pressed off and remained in neutral oak on fine-tees for 11-months. It was sterile filtered to keg on June 4.

SITE

From two historic Mendocino vineyards pitched on the lofty slopes of Cloverdale's Pine Mountain. Both McCutchen & Rebotaro boast 60-70 year old, head-pruned, dry-farmed vines planted on south-facing exposures at 2200-2400 feet. The soil is a mix of hard shale & clay. This rapidly vanishing California grape variety--made in this 'old-timey' way-- harkens back to the Golden State's earliest winemaking efforts.

NOTES

Kush was born of our interest in putting into keg an eminently quaffable bistro-style red wine in the style of Dolcetto or Cru Beaujolais. But to do it with an heirloom California varietal. Carignan was a natural--in particular from these high elevation sites in Mendocino county where the variety struggles to get ripe and maintains its brisk natural acidity. The idea of doing "carbo-mac" was inspired by our favorite gamay wines from Beaujolais and the belief that a red wine from keg would be well served by the super fresh, high toned style of wine fermented this way.

The name Kush. like its Indica and Sativa cousins, refers to a certain strain of a certain medicinal plant :)

DETAILS

Vineyards: Rebotarro, McCutchen	Total acidity: 6.7 g/l
Appellation: Pine Mountain-Cloverdale Peak	Residual sugar: 0.4 g/l
County: Mendocino	Alcohol: 12.5%
Winemaker: John Raytek	Yield: 2-3T/acre
Production: 200 kegs	Clones: mother clone
Anticipated maturity: drink now	Harvest date: 10/4 and 10/12
pH: 3.54	
Brix: 22.5	



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 (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME ROAD DEATHS AND ACCIDENTS.
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