

**Variety:** Grenache (100%)

**Origin:** Hannah's Bench, Mistral Ranch Vineyard (Lyle, WA, USA)

**Grower:** Robert McCormick

**The Site:** A cliff-clinging comma of vineyard, planted in 2003. The rows trace the contours of a narrow ledge hundreds of feet above the north bank of the Columbia River, ruthlessly exposed to both sun and Gorge wind.

**The Vintage:** A precocious spring gave way to a summer of somewhat erratic but conducive weather. First grapes came off early, but the season had calmed and then seemed to stretch, giving an atypically unhurried harvest season.

**Harvest:** Picked by hand on September 26 & 27

**Lab:** 14.5 % ABV, pH 3.57

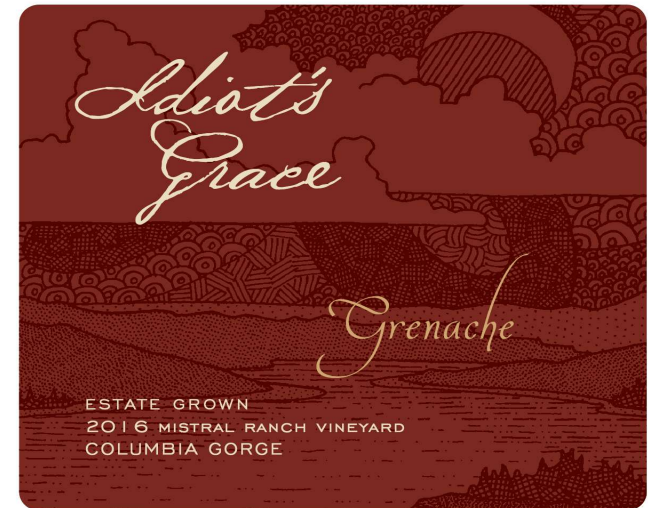
**In The Field:** Beginning this year, these goblet-trained vines were allowed to spread and drape, an approach that exposes more leaf area toward the sun while giving a measure more shade protection to the fruit and, conveniently, better separation of the bunches. In sum, an ideal ripening environment.

## Fermentation, Upbringing and Bottling

Sugars rise quickly here and the juice was sweeter than we'd like even before bunches had fully colored. Fermentations were conducted by resident microflora and wines aged in older barrels; select portions were assembled in early December.

Bottled in mid-January of 2018. *102 cases produced*

*Idiot's Grace*



# Idiot's Grace Grenache

2016  
Columbia Gorge AVA

There's a high degree of saturation here, in both fragrance and texture. Tannins are more mineral than chewy; aromas veer from rich fruit to spicy, aromatic wood... darkly.