

# CADUCEUS CELLARS & MERKIN VINEYARDS

**Merkin** 2022 Chupacabra Blanca

**Varieties:** Malvasia Bianca, Chardonnay, Riesling, Albariño,  
Vermentino, Sauvignon Blanc

**Vineyard:** Buhl Memorial Vineyard, Willcox, Cochise County, AZ

**Elevation:** 4300 ft.

**Soil:** The site is 80 acres, with 60 planted, 20 of those in 1982—  
one of the oldest vineyards in post-prohibition Arizona.  
The soils here provide glimpses of past volcanic eruptions,  
faulting, erosion, and the ancient Pedregosa Sea.

**Notes:** Site blend from our southern Arizona vineyards. Latest  
bud break on record. Monsoon conditions started a  
month early with record rainfall. Cool temperatures  
slowed ripening for a long harvest.

**Alcohol:** 12%

**Winemaker:** M.J. Keenan

**Impressions:** Why so many varieties? Life is perhaps too short to use just  
one grape. It's like art—often, the more colors, the more  
beguiling. A freshly peeled pineapple. A night blooming jas-  
mine. A firm melon. Lemongrass. Here we have presence  
without the slightest pretense...