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2012 Red Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon

VINTAGE

After two cooler than normal vintages, the 2012 vintage more closely resembled what is typical of the Columbia Valley. The temperatures in the spring were relatively cool, while summer temperatures were warm and remarkably consistent. The ideal weather continued through harvest and allowed us to produce aromatic, flavorful wines with good acidity. Expect the wines from this vintage to be long-lived and incredibly well-balanced.

VINEYARDS

Red Mountain is Washington's second smallest American Viticultural Area (AVA) and among the most well-defined and distinctive areas due in large part to its geography. At the eastern edge of the Yakima Valley, Red Mountain is a moderately steep southwest facing slope that rises above a sharp bend in the Yakima River. As one of the warmer sites in the state, grapes ripen exceptionally well. Ciel du Cheval, Obelisco, and Shaw Vineyards are among the best vineyards on Red Mountain, and they combine to produce this exceptional example of Cabernet Sauvignon.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins for an average of 8 days. After being pressed off, the wine was aged for 20 months in 60% new and 40% once used French Oak barrels to improve its already lengthy finish. Racking every 4-5 months helped create a wine with considerable structure and suppleness.

TASTING NOTES

This vibrant wine offers aromas of blueberry, black cherry, vanilla and spice. The palate is rich and opulent with a dense core of dark fruit and layered spice notes that persist on the lengthy finish. This wine's structure makes it a prime candidate for cellar aging, but its purity and balance allow for immediate enjoyment.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....0.54g/100ml
 pH.....3.68
 Blend.....90% Cabernet Sauvignon
 6%Merlot
 4%Cabernet Franc
 Cases.....288
 Bottling Date.....July 23, 2014

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker