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2012 Weinbau Vineyard Cabernet Franc

VINTAGE

After two cooler than normal vintages, the 2012 vintage more closely resembled what is typical of the Columbia Valley. Though temperatures in the spring were relatively cool, 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.

VINEYARD

Weinbau Vineyard is located on the Wahluke Slope near Mattawa. The vineyard is one of the oldest in the area and is known for its particularly fine silty loam soils. This talcum powder-like soil provides good drainage and heat retention. Thanks in part to its location at the eastern portion of the Wahluke Slope, the vineyard experiences more moderate temperatures that help create longer hangtime and ideal ripening conditions.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, the grapes were fermented on their skins for 8 days. After being pressed off, the wine was aged for 20 months in equal amounts of new and once used French oak barrels. Small amounts of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot were added to the blend to help improve its already lengthy finish. Racking the wine every 4-5 months contributed to its remarkable suppleness and structure.

TASTING NOTES

This dark, rich Cabernet Franc is packed with elegant violet, blueberry, plum, and warm vanilla notes on the nose. Vibrant and focused on the palate, the wine displays a clear sense of balance. The long, polished finish was developed in part from aging in new French oak barrels.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....0.54g/100ml
 pH.....3.62
 Alcohol.....14.4%
 Blend.....89% Cabernet Franc
 7% Merlot
 4% Cabernet Sauvignon
 Cases308
 Bottling Date.....June 26, 2014

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker