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2012 Columbia Valley Red Wine

VINTAGE

After two cooler than normal vintages, the 2012 vintage more closely resembled what is typical of the Columbia Valley. Though Spring 2012 temperatures 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.

VINEYARDS

One of the advantages of having made wine in the Columbia Valley since the mid-1980s is the opportunity it's given me to work with some of the most dedicated growers in the industry. Our Columbia Valley wines are made from a short list of vineyards I consider to be among the best in the state. The diversity of these vineyards-representing many of the most mature, carefully managed sites in Washington-provides for a full range of fruit expression that allows me to craft complex, multi-layered wines true to Columbia Valley *terroir* as well as the varietal character of the grapes. Our 2012 Red Wine includes grapes from Weinbau, Champoux, Ciel du Cheval and Alder Ridge vineyards.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins for an average of eight days. After being pressed off, this wine was aged for 20 months in equal amounts of new and once used French oak barrels to improve its already lengthy finish. Racking the wine every four months created pliant tannins and a bold, stylish structure.

TASTING NOTES

The nose is brimming with blackberries, currants, and rich dark chocolate. Medium full on the palate with an elegant, lively mouth-feel and a long finish packed with fresh berry and cherry flavors.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....0.56g/100ml
 pH.....3.67
 Blend... .. 39% Malbec
 18% Syrah
 16% Cabernet Sauvignon
 16% Merlot
 11% Cabernet Franc
 Cases.....1597
 Bottling Date.....June 4, 2014

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker