



JANUIK

2013 Columbia Valley Merlot

VINTAGE

Over the course of the last few vintages, the Columbia Valley has seen a shift from two of this decade's cooler vintages in 2010 and 2011 to the warmest vintage of the last ten years in 2013. An early bud break was followed by warm temperatures that persisted through August. Harvest started earlier than normal but cool September temperatures slowed ripening considerably, and most grapes benefited from the drawn-out hang time that occurred because of these cooler temperatures.

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 2013 Columbia Valley Merlot includes grapes from Weinbau, Klipsun, and Ciel du Cheval Vineyards.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins in small lots for an average time of eight days. After being pressed off, each lot of wine was moved to an equal mix of new and once used French oak barrels for 21 months of barrel aging during which time the wine was racked every 5 months.

TASTING NOTES

This well-structured, medium-bodied Merlot shows lots of black cherry, plum and spice notes in the nose that flow into fleshy black fruit and chocolate flavors in the mouth. With an abundance of texture and length, this wine should age gracefully for a minimum of 10 years.

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker

www.januikwinery.com



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....	0.54g/100ml
pH.....	3.68
Blend.....	96% Merlot 4% Cabernet Sauvignon
Cases.....	776
Bottling Date.....	June 3, 2015