



2015 Columbia Valley Red Wine

VINTAGE

Over the course of the last four vintages, the Columbia Valley has seen a shift from two of this decade's cooler vintages in 2010 and 2011 to the two warmest vintages of the last ten years in 2014 and 2015. In 2015, an early bud break was followed by warm temperatures that persisted through the summer and well into the fall. Harvest started earlier than most vintages and finished 10 days earlier than normal. This added warmth has helped create wines that are intensely aromatic with very concentrated flavors.

VINEYARDS

One of the advantages of having made wine in the Columbia Valley since the mid-1980s is the opportunity it has 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 2015 Red Wine includes grapes from Weinbau, Champoux, Ciel du Cheval, Lady Hawk, 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 five months created pliant tannins and a bold, stylish structure.

TASTING NOTES

The nose is filled with expressive black cherry, raspberry and mocha notes. On the palate, the wine is brimming with fresh berry and spice flavors. A concentrated and balanced mid-palate follows into a nice supple finish.

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker

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ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....	0.57g/100ml
pH.....	3.75
Blend.....	33% Cabernet Sauvignon 32% Merlot 19% Malbec 7% Syrah 5% Grenache 4% Cabernet Franc
Cases.....	2,767
Bottling Date.....	June 15, 2017