



JANUIK

2015 Columbia Valley Merlot

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'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 2015 Columbia Valley Merlot includes grapes from Klipsun, Weinbau, Bacchus 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 raked every 5 months.

TASTING NOTES

This well-structured, medium-bodied Merlot shows lots of black raspberry, cherry and plum notes in the nose that transition into fleshy black fruit and cocoa flavors in the mouth. Brimming with a tremendous amount of texture and length, this wine should age gracefully for a minimum of 10-15 years.

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker

www.januikwinery.com



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity.....	0.54g/100ml
pH.....	3.72
Blend.....	89% Merlot 7% Cabernet Franc 4% Cabernet Sauvignon
Cases.....	956
Bottling Date.....	August 29, 2017