

Varietal Composition: Tinta Cao; Tempranillo; Sousao; Touriga Nacional

Appellation: Columbia Valley
Bottled: September 14, 2016

Technical Data: Alc. 18.8% by vol.; RS: 7.2%; TA: 6.12 g/L; pH: 3.86

Cases Produced: 257

Production & Aging: Aged 34 months in seasoned oak

THE VINTAGE

The 2013 vintage warmed up quickly creating warmer soil temperatures which resulted in early sap flow and bud burst - ahead of the normal averages. Warmer temperatures wall through the season allowed shoot length to surge ahead and flowering to begin early, which is typically a week to ten days in Washington. This even flowering cycle was evident in cluster maturation across the vineyard, resulting in more uniform flavors in each block. Due to the favorable conditions, less fruit was dropped during veraison which resulted in slightly increased crop yields. It was a hot and even season from beginning to end.

THE VINEYARD

Sourced from the award-winning Gunkel Vineyard (Estate) in Washington State's Columbia Valley AVA.

THE WINEMAKING

Throughout harvest, Winemaker Richard Batchelor worked closely with local growers and visited each vineyard to taste for maturity and ripeness to determine the precise moment to pick the fruit. Grapes were hand-harvested during the cool hours of the morning to preserve bright fruit notes. Sourced from our collection of vineyards throughout Washington, each lot underwent a five day pre-fermentation cold maceration for color and fruit extraction. The fruit was kept separate by varietal and warmed up to begin the native yeast fermentation. Once pressed, the wine was then aged in neutral French oak barrels for 34 months. For the first year this wine was stirred in barrel on its lees to enhance mouth-feel and racked when necessary to soften the tannins. After the first 12 months the wine was racked off the lees for clarity before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Warm and inviting with deep flavors of brown sugar, dark chocolate, and cherry. This vintage port is a lovely companion to a hearty meal or enjoyed as a standalone treat.

AWARDS

Platinum, 2017 Wine Press Northwest Platinum Judging Gold/Best of Category, 2017 Seattle Wine Awards Double Gold, 2017 Cascadia Wine Competition

