

# PROPRIETOR'S RESERVE 2014 ROSSO GRANATO COLUMBIA VALLEY

Varietal Composition: 87% Petite Sirah; 13% Zinfandel

Appellation: Columbia Valley
Bottled: July 20, 2016

Technical Data: Alc. 13.9% by vol.; RS: 0.01%; TA: 6.21 g/L; pH: 3.38

Cases Produced: 403

Production & Aging: Aged 19 months in 60% new French, European and American Oak

### THE VINTAGE

The 2014 vintage was the hottest on record for the grape harvest in Washington state. A warmer than average season encouraged early shoot growth, without any late season frost. Periods of high temperatures early in the season slowed physical development in shoot growth, but then a period of consistent heat was experienced during the onset of berry formation. The season included an extended Indian summer that was made up of warm days and cool nights throughout harvest, resulting in concentrated fruit character in the whites and lush tannins and color in the reds. The stable weather pattern allowed for well-scheduled fruit picking decisions which transistioned naturally through all varietals.

## THE VINEYARD

Sourced from Art den Hoed's award-winning Painted Hills Vineyard (Petite Sirah) near the Yakima Valley town of Mabton and Gunkel Vineyard (Zinfandel) 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. Each lot underwent a five day pre-fermentation cold soak before the tank was allowed to go through a native fermentation to dryness lasting roughly 21 days. Each cabernet lot was fermented separately and then blended before bottling to allow the tannins to meld together. To craft this wine, only the free run juice was collected and no press fraction was blended. The lots were then barrel aged for 19 months with a combination of Frech, European, and American oak. For the first year this wine was stirred in barrel on its lees to enahnce the mouthfeel and racked when necessary to soften the tannins. After the first 12 months the wine was racked off the lees for clarity and blended before bottling.

# TASTING NOTES

This wine is full-bodied and layered with rich leather, huckleberry and toffee flavors that meld seamlessly into the expressive cherry wood finish.

# **AWARDS**

Double Gold; 2017 Platinum Wine Competition Gold; 2017 Washington State Wine Competition

