

# PROPRIETOR'S RESERVE 2013 SYRAH COLUMBIA VALLEY

Varietal Composition: Appellation: Bottled: Technical Data: Cases Produced: Production & Aging: 100% Syrah Columbia Valley August 4, 2015 Alc. 14.5% by vol.; RS: 0.01%; TA: 5.85 g/L; pH: 3.71 211 Aged 18 months in 35% new French 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 well 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 four vineyards in Washington State's Columbia Valley AVA - this reserve Syrah is comprised of fruit from 28% Elephant Mountain Vineyard, 27% Les Collines Vineyard, 27% Northridge Vineyard, and 18% McKinley Springs Vineyard.

## 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. This wine was fermented separately and then blended before bottling to allow the tannins to meld together. 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. To craft this wine, only the free run juice was collected and no press fraction was blended. The lots were then barrel aged for 18 months in 35% new French oak. For the first year this wine was stirred in barrel on its lees 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

Well-structured and fruit-forward, this reserve Syrah exhibits flavors of ripe cherry, cocoa, and warm, peppery notes on the palate.

#### AWARDS

Chairman's Award (Unanimous Gold), 2016 Dan Berger's International Wine Competition Double Gold, 2016 Cascadia Wine Competition

Pacific Northwest Winery of the Year Wine Press Northwest, 2015 Winery of the Year San Francisco International, 2014 Top 10 Winery of the World World Association of Wine Writers & Journalists, 2014 Winemaker of the Year INDY International, 2013