

ALDER RIDGE VINEYARD 2014 CABERNET SAUVIGNON HORSE HEAVEN HILLS

Varietal Composition: Appellation: Bottled: Technical Data: Cases Produced: Production & Aging: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon Horse Heaven Hills July 21, 2016 Alc. 15.8% by vol.; RS: 0.01%; TA: 6.42 g/L; pH: 3.67 213 Aged 22 months in 75% new Taransaud French 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 award-winning Alder Ridge Vineyard in Washington State's Horse Heaven Hills AVA.

THE WINEMAKING

Throughout harvest, Winemaker Richard Batchelor worked closely with the grower and visited the 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 single vineyard lot underwent a five day pre-fermentation cold soak before the tank was allowed to go through a native fermentation to dryness in about 21 days. Only the free run juice was collected and no press fraction was used in the making of this wine. The lots were then aged in Taransaud French oak for 22 months. 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 before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Ripe berry fruit and leather aromas that are bright on the nose. A lush palate expands into a delicious array of round tannins that melt away smoothly on the finish.

AWARDS

Gold; 2017 Platinum Wine Awards Gold; 2017 Seattle Wine Awards



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