

DESERT WIND

2014 Malbec

Cases produced:	251
Vineyard:	Desert Wind Vineyard
Appellation:	Wahluke Slope, WA
Harvested:	October 10, 2014
Fermentation:	Closed top fermentation with circulations two-three times per day; eight days of skin contact
Final #s:	Alcohol 14.3 % • TA 6.0 g/L • pH 3.58
Release Date:	February 15, 2016
UPC:	768154231328

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Hailing from France's Bordeaux region, Malbec was historically used as a blending grape in the Old World. Malbec thrives in hot, high altitude desert regions, such as the Wahluke Slope, producing a distinctive wine of dark color and concentrated flavor. The Desert Wind Malbec was fermented in open-top bins; after primary fermentation, the free run and press wine were blended and aged in 33% new American oak for 17 months. The resulting wine displays aromas of blackberry and white flowers, complemented by warm red fruit, toasted oak and supple tannins. Recommended drinking period: 2016-2025.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Wahluke Slope is located in Eastern Washington's Columbia Valley. The site is considered Zone 3, the hottest in the region. Our 480-acre vineyard is a southern facing block with a two percent slope and shallow, rocky soil. The vines are irrigated with an underground drip system; double catch wires are used to increase air circulation during the growing season. Leaf pulling and cluster thinning are important steps in aiding the ripening of the grapes.

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