



## 2012 Malbec

<b>Cases produced:</b>	173
<b>Vineyard:</b>	Desert Wind Vineyard
<b>Appellation:</b>	Wahluke, WA
<b>Harvested:</b>	October 17, 2012
<b>Fermentation:</b>	Open top fermentation in bins with punch downs three times per day
<b>Blend:</b>	95% Malbec, 5% other reds
<b>Final #s:</b>	Alcohol 14.0 % • TA 0.6 g/100ml pH 3.74 • RS .05 g /100ml
<b>Release Date:</b>	August 2014
<b>UPC:</b>	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 50% new American oak for 16 months. The resulting wine displays aromas of blackberry and dark fruits, complemented by toasted oak and supple tannins. Recommended drinking period: 2015-2020.

### 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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